Bennett • Cafaro • Prianto & Co. • Peteri

WITCHBLADE

20 APR

DIGITAL EDITION US

WITCHBLADE®

created by **Marc Silvestri**, **David Wohl**, **Brian Haberlin** & **Michael Turner**

New York City Police Detective Sara Pezzini's life was forever fractured by her father's murder. Cold, cunning, and hellbent on revenge, Sara now stalks a vicious criminal cabal beneath the city. During a brutal warehouse massacre, Sara bonded with the Witchblade, an ancient weapon that transformed her into something wild, magnificent, and beyond her darkest imaginings.

Previously...New York City Police Detective Sara Pezzini's dive into the world of the supernatural began with the search into the cover-up that destroyed her father. Along the way, she bonded with an ancient weapon known as the Witchblade, which, following recent events, has gone through a new transformation, bound by the powers of darkness and light, becoming something new that hangs in the balance. Following the tragic end to the Grinteeth vigilante, Sara picked up the pieces and wandered into her local watering hole, and met an enigmatic green-haired woman. Sara woke up the next morning, stirred by memories of the night before, only to discover a dead body in her bed, and her green-haired acquaintance gone without a trace. Meanwhile, a series of burglaries all tied to a brand of high-tech smart lock led Sara and her partner Jake McCarthy to the door of A.S.I. Industries where something appears to be amiss. Discreetly, Sara is able to remove and recover the body of the man she found in her bed in order to solve his murder. When Sara followed the clues and opened the door to his apartment, she was greeted by a familiar face and a distinctive green tattoo. After a savage fight, Sara is left for dead, and the assassin returned to her headquarters at A.S.I. Industries. Sara has recovered and is ready to pick up where they left off.

"Solitude"

Written by **Marguerite Bennett**
Line art by **Giuseppe Cafaro**
Colors by **Arif**, **Ifansyah Noor**, **Felix Hidayat**,
and **Sakti Yuwono** for **Prianto & Co.**
Letters by **Troy Peteri**
Edits by **Marc Silvestri**, **Matt Hawkins** and **Ryan Cady**

Cover A: **Giuseppe Cafaro** and **Arif Prianto**
Cover B, C (Virgin), and Top Cow Store Spot Foil Exclusive: **Sveta Shubina**
Cover D, *I HATE FAIRYLAND* TEAM-UP VARIANT:
Giuseppe Cafaro and **Gibran Ferdian**

For Top Cow Productions, Inc.
Marc Silvestri - CEO
Matt Hawkins - President & COO
Vincent Valentine - Director of Special Projects
Phil Smith - Edits, Design and Production
Want more info? Check out:
www.topcow.com and
www.thetopcowstore.com
for news & exclusive merchandise!

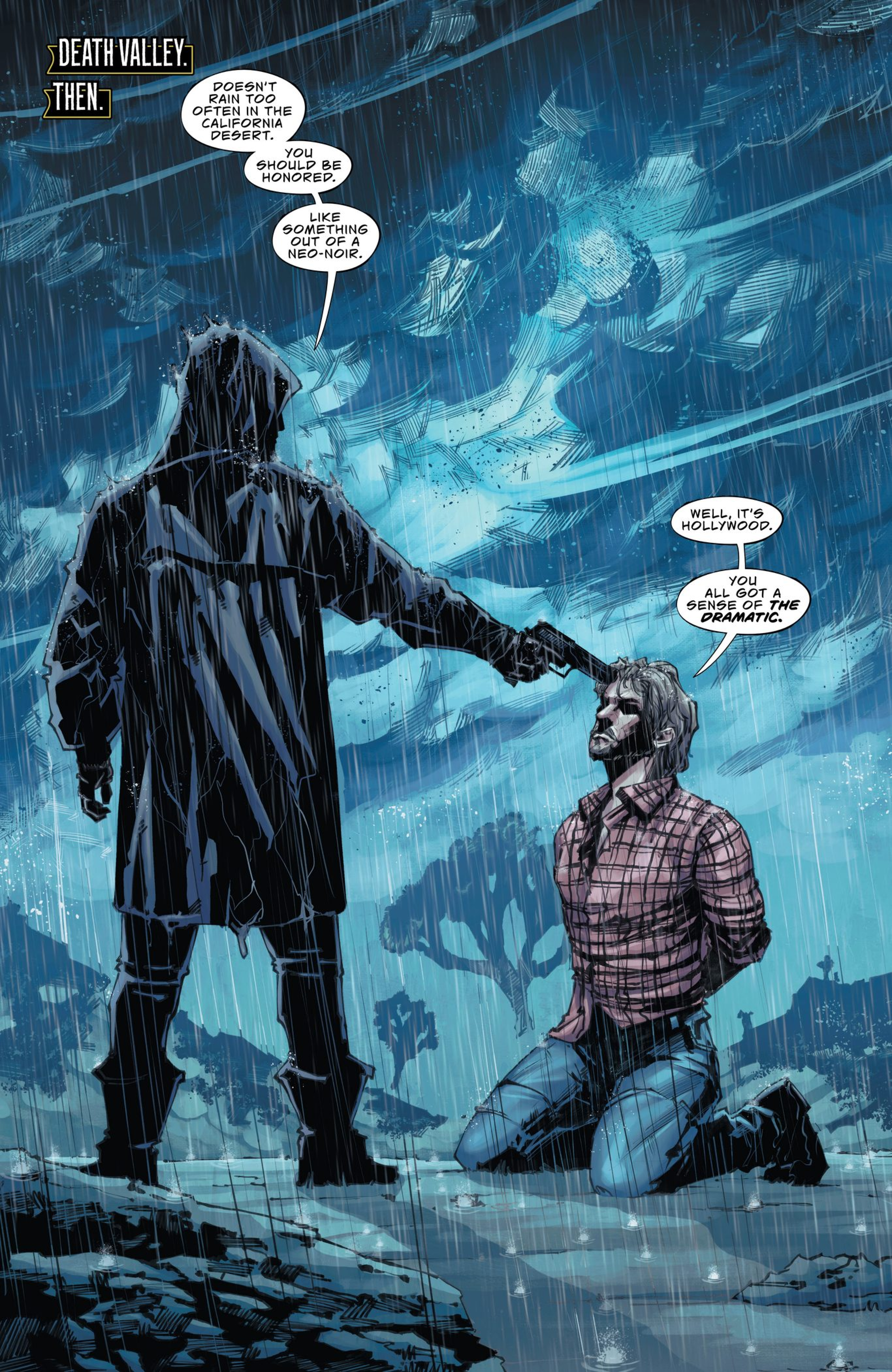
IMAGE COMICS, INC.

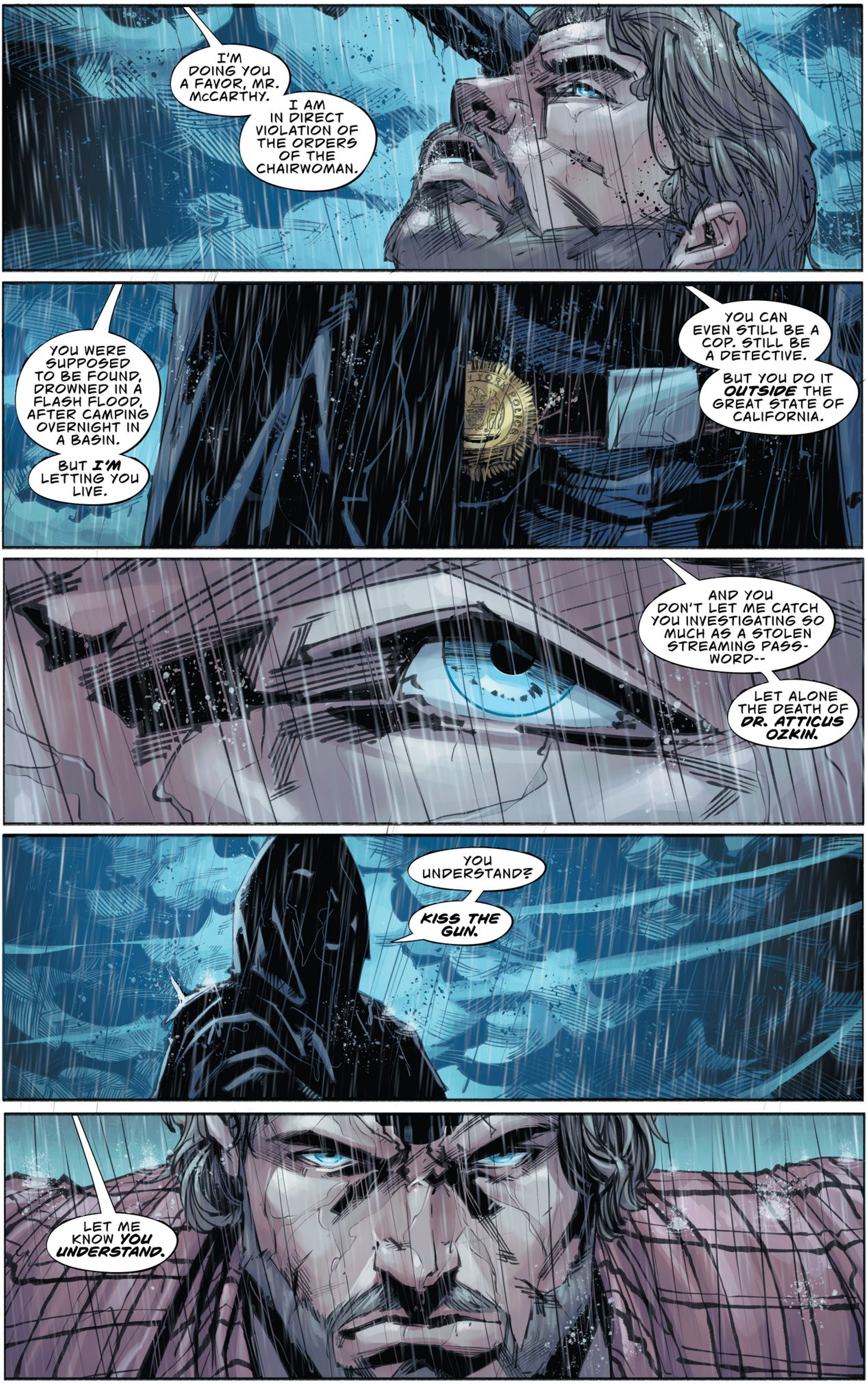
Robert Kirkman – Chief Operations Officer
Erik Larsen – Chief Financial Officer
Todd McFarlane – President
Marc Silvestri – Chief Executive Officer
Jim Valentino – Vice President
Eric Stephenson – Publisher & Chief Creative Officer

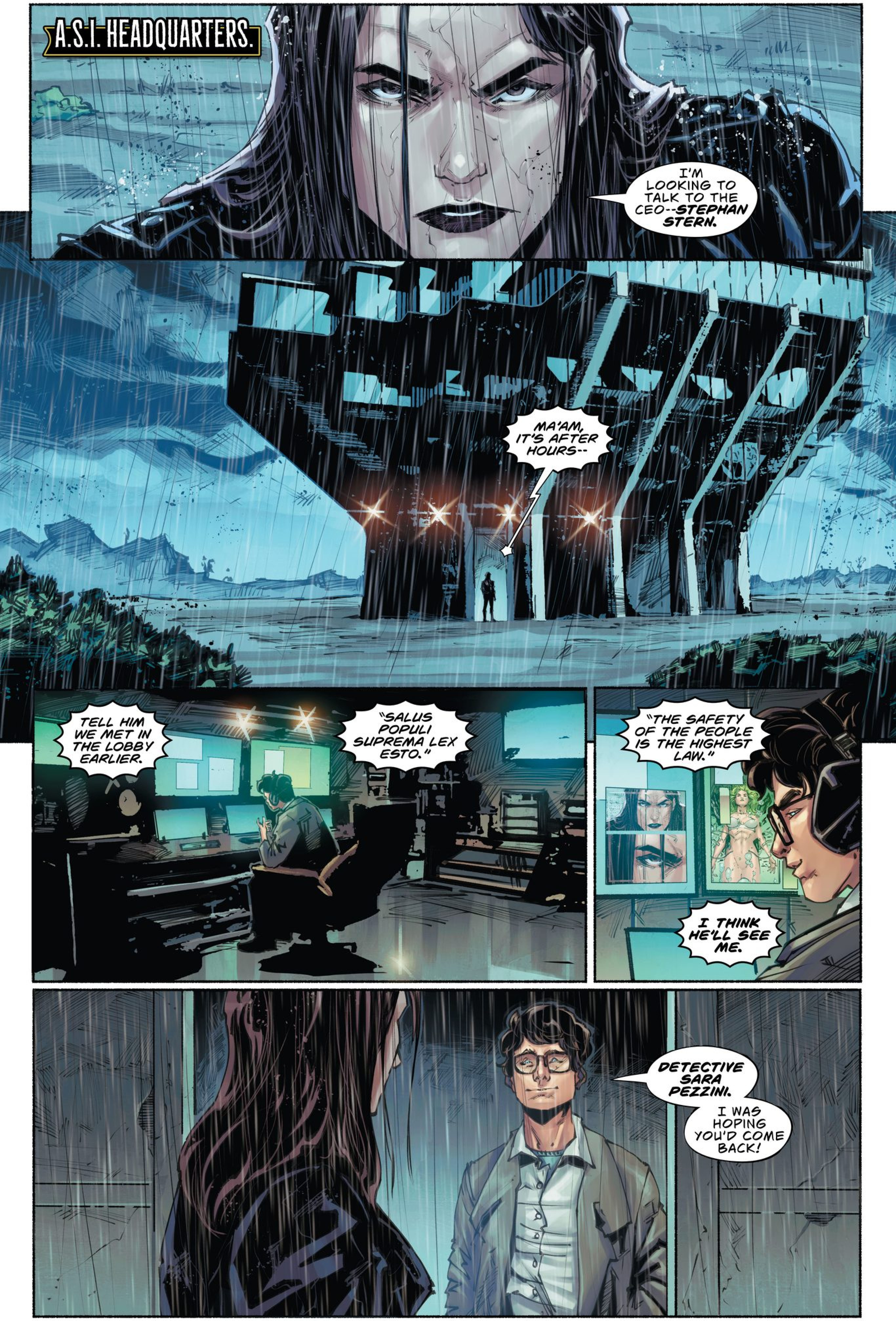
IMAGECOMICS.COM

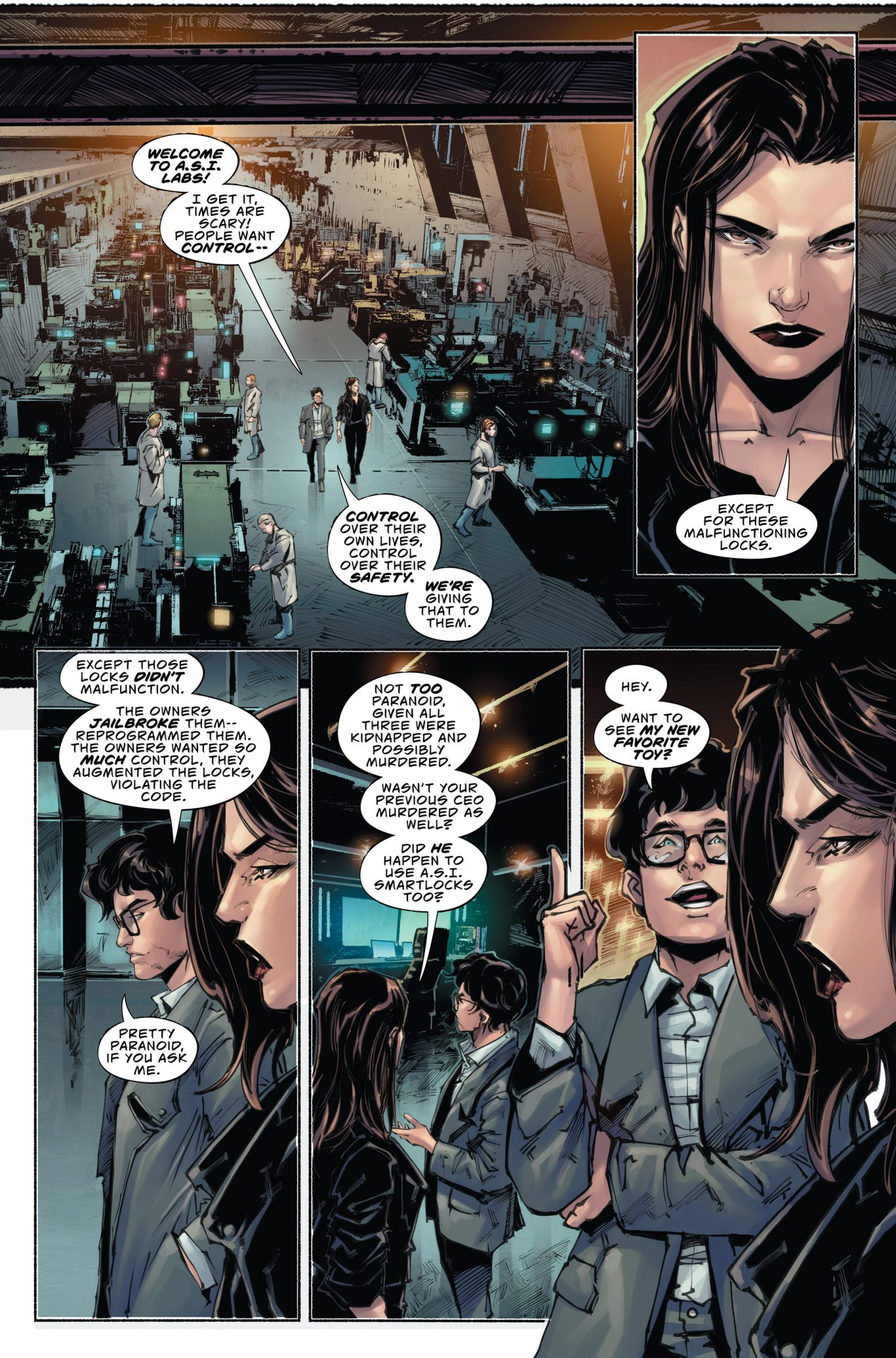
**To find the
comic shop
nearest you, call:
1-888-COMICBOOK**

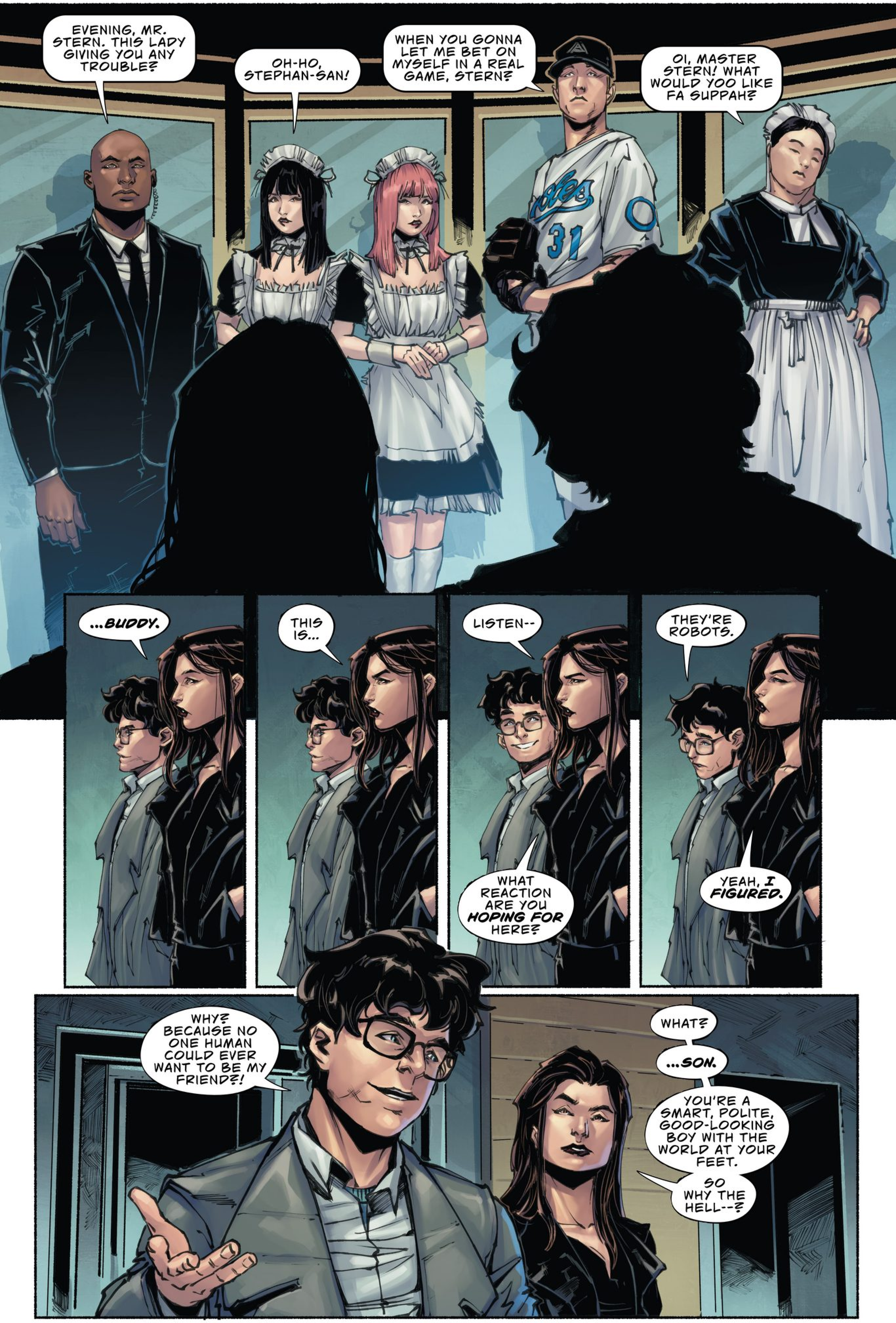
WITCHBLADE #20. First Printing. April 2026. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: PO BOX 14457, Portland, OR 97293. Copyright © 2026 Top Cow Productions, Inc. All rights reserved. "Witchblade," its logos, and the likenesses of all characters herein are ® registered trademarks of Top Cow Productions, Inc., unless otherwise noted. Image Comics logo designed by Rob Liefeld. "Image" and the Image Comics logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means (except for short excerpts for journalistic or review purposes), without the express written permission of Top Cow Productions, Inc., or Image Comics, Inc. All names, characters, events, and locales in this publication are entirely fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events, or places, without satirical intent, is coincidental. For international rights, contact: matt@topcow.com

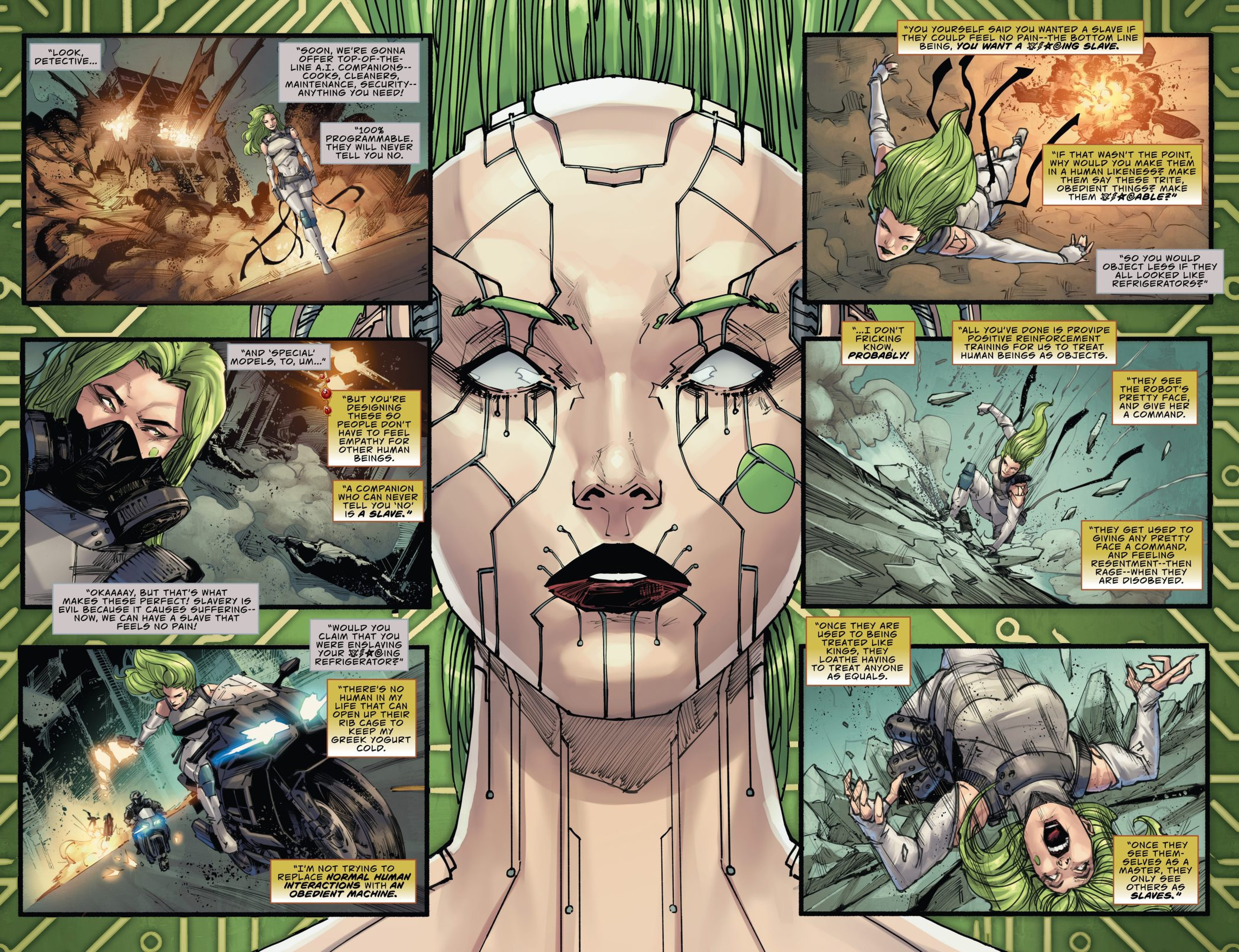

DEATH VALLEY.
THEN.
DOESN'T RAIN TOO OFTEN IN THE CALIFORNIA DESERT.
YOU SHOULD BE HONORED.
LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A NEO-NOIR.
WELL, IT'S HOLLYWOOD.
YOU ALL GOT A SENSE OF ***THE DRAMATIC.***

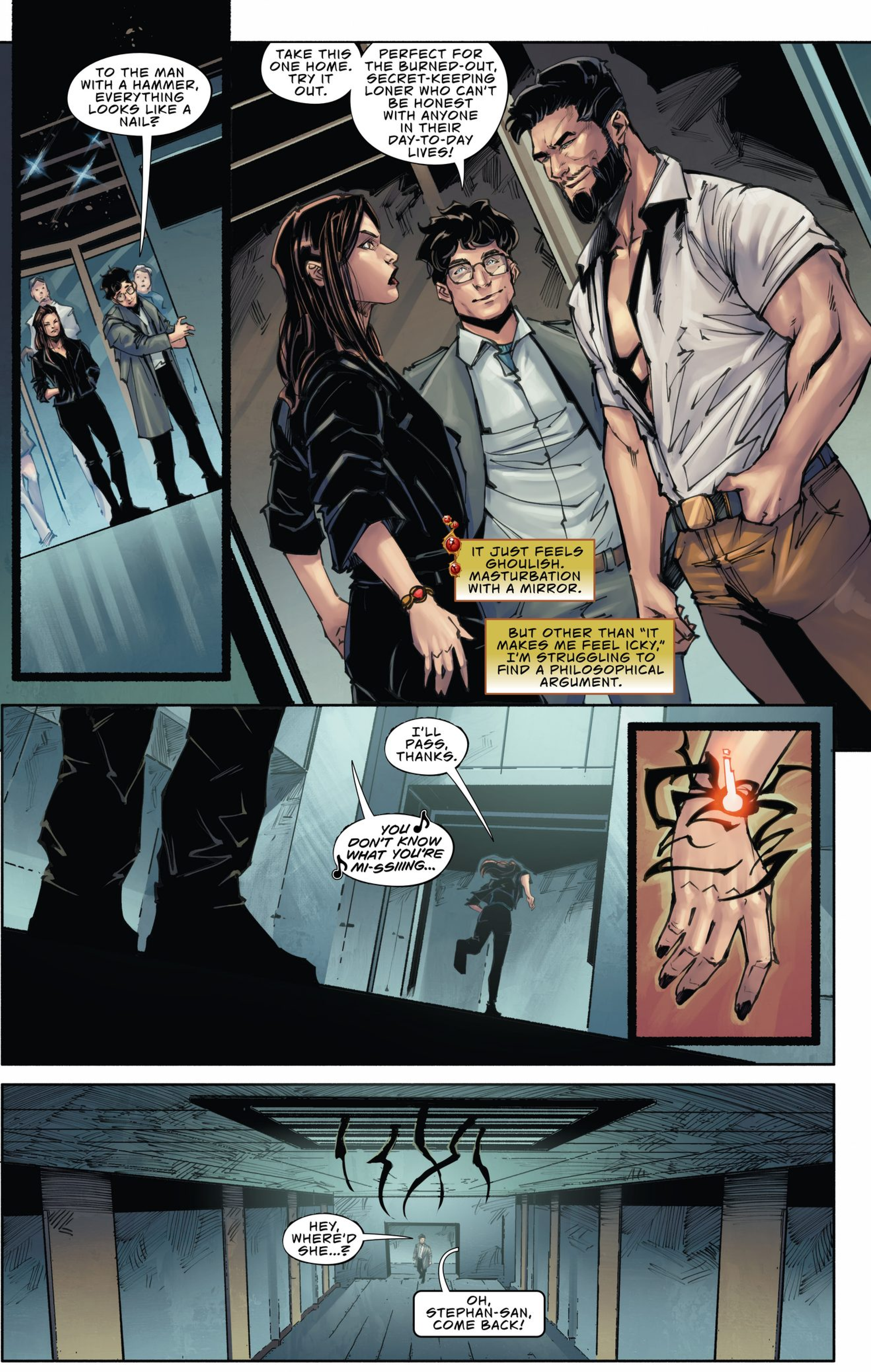

I'M DOING YOU A FAVOR, MR. McCARTHY.
I AM IN DIRECT VIOLATION OF THE ORDERS OF THE CHAIRWOMAN.
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE FOUND, DROWNED IN A FLASH FLOOD, AFTER CAMPING OVERNIGHT IN A BASIN.
BUT ***I'M*** LETTING YOU LIVE.
YOU CAN EVEN STILL BE A COP. STILL BE A DETECTIVE.
BUT YOU DO IT ***OUTSIDE*** THE GREAT STATE OF CALIFORNIA.
AND YOU DON'T LET ME CATCH YOU INVESTIGATING SO MUCH AS A STOLEN STREAMING PASSWORD--
LET ALONE THE DEATH OF ***DR. ATTICUS OZKIN.***
YOU UNDERSTAND?
KISS THE GUN.
LET ME KNOW ***YOU UNDERSTAND.***

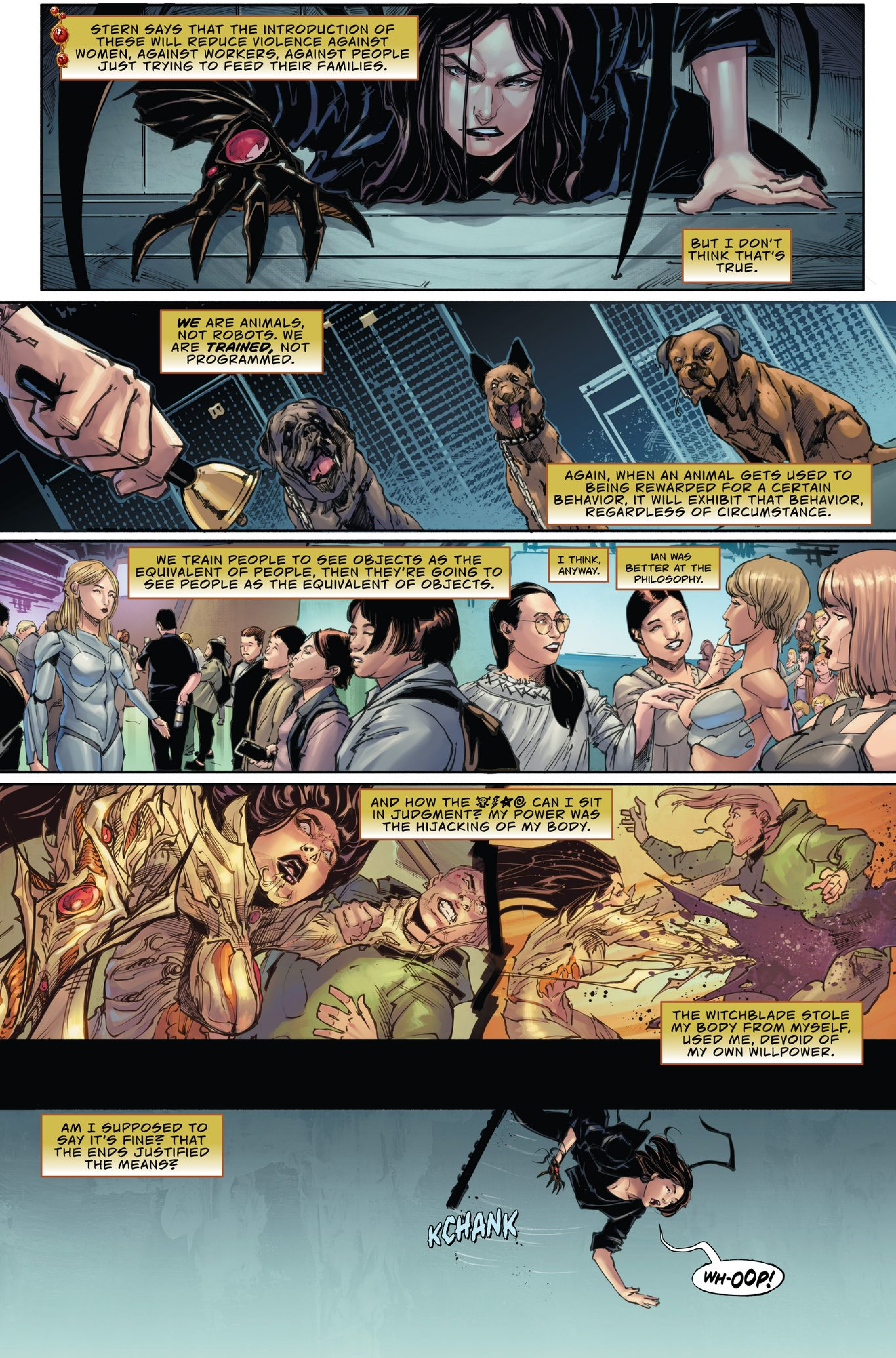

A.S.I. HEADQUARTERS.
I'M LOOKING TO TALK TO THE CEO--STEPHAN STERN.
MA'AM, IT'S AFTER HOURS--
TELL HIM WE MET IN THE LOBBY EARLIER.
"SALUS POPULI SUPREMA LEX ESTO."
"THE SAFETY OF THE PEOPLE IS THE HIGHEST LAW."
I THINK HE'LL SEE ME.
DETECTIVE SARA PEZZINI.
I WAS HOPING YOU'D COME BACK!

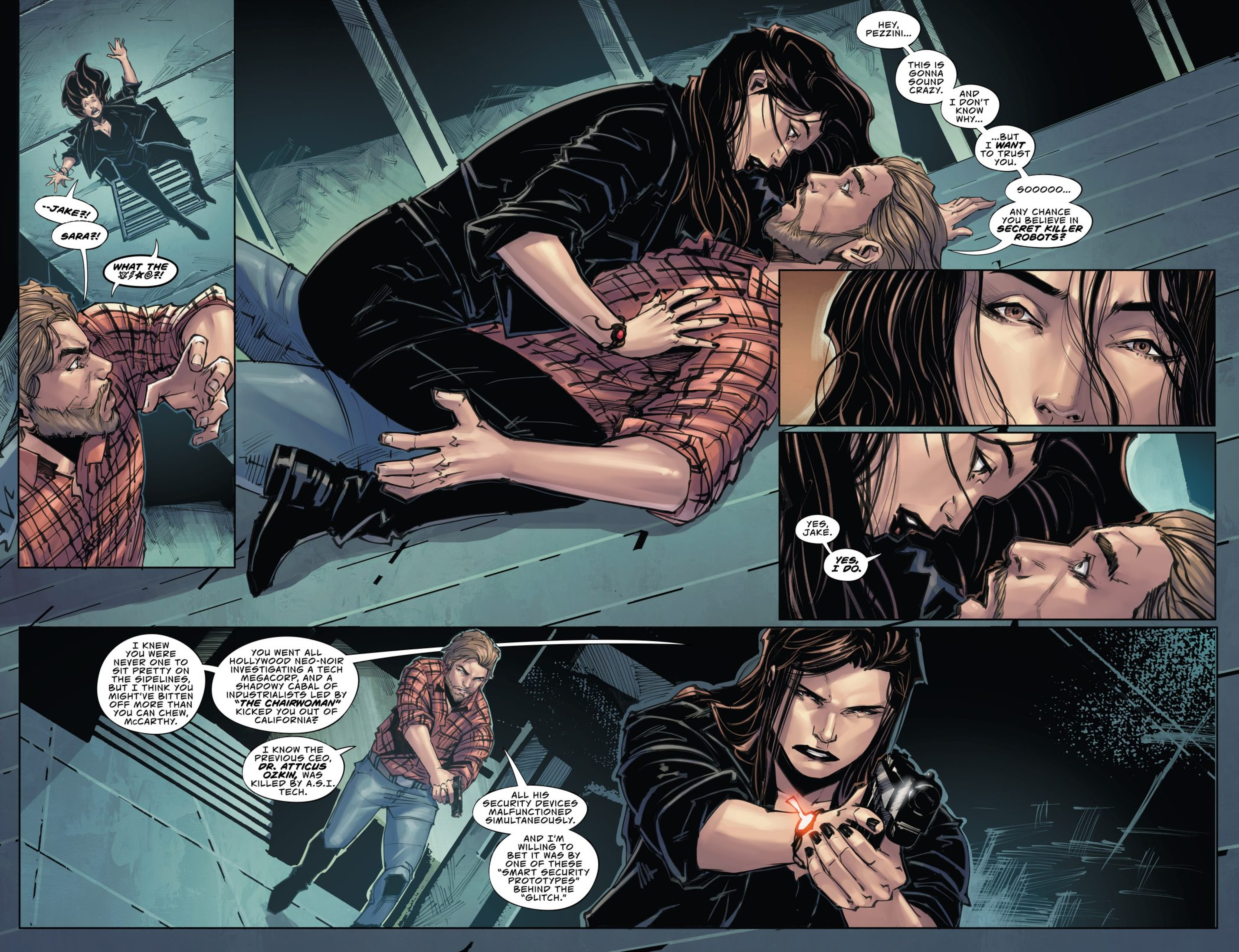

WELCOME TO A.S.I. LABS!
I GET IT, TIMES ARE SCARY! PEOPLE WANT CONTROL--
CONTROL OVER THEIR OWN LIVES, CONTROL OVER THEIR SAFETY.
WE'RE GIVING THAT TO THEM.
EXCEPT FOR THESE MALFUNCTIONING LOCKS.
EXCEPT THOSE LOCKS DIDN'T MALFUNCTION.
THE OWNERS JAILBROKE THEM--REPROGRAMMED THEM. THE OWNERS WANTED SO MUCH CONTROL, THEY AUGMENTED THE LOCKS, VIOLATING THE CODE.
PRETTY PARANOID, IF YOU ASK ME.
NOT TOO PARANOID, GIVEN ALL THREE WERE KIDNAPPED AND POSSIBLY MURDERED.
WASN'T YOUR PREVIOUS CEO MURDERED AS WELL?
DID HE HAPPEN TO USE A.S.I. SMARTLOCKS TOO?
HEY.
WANT TO SEE MY NEW FAVORITE TOY?

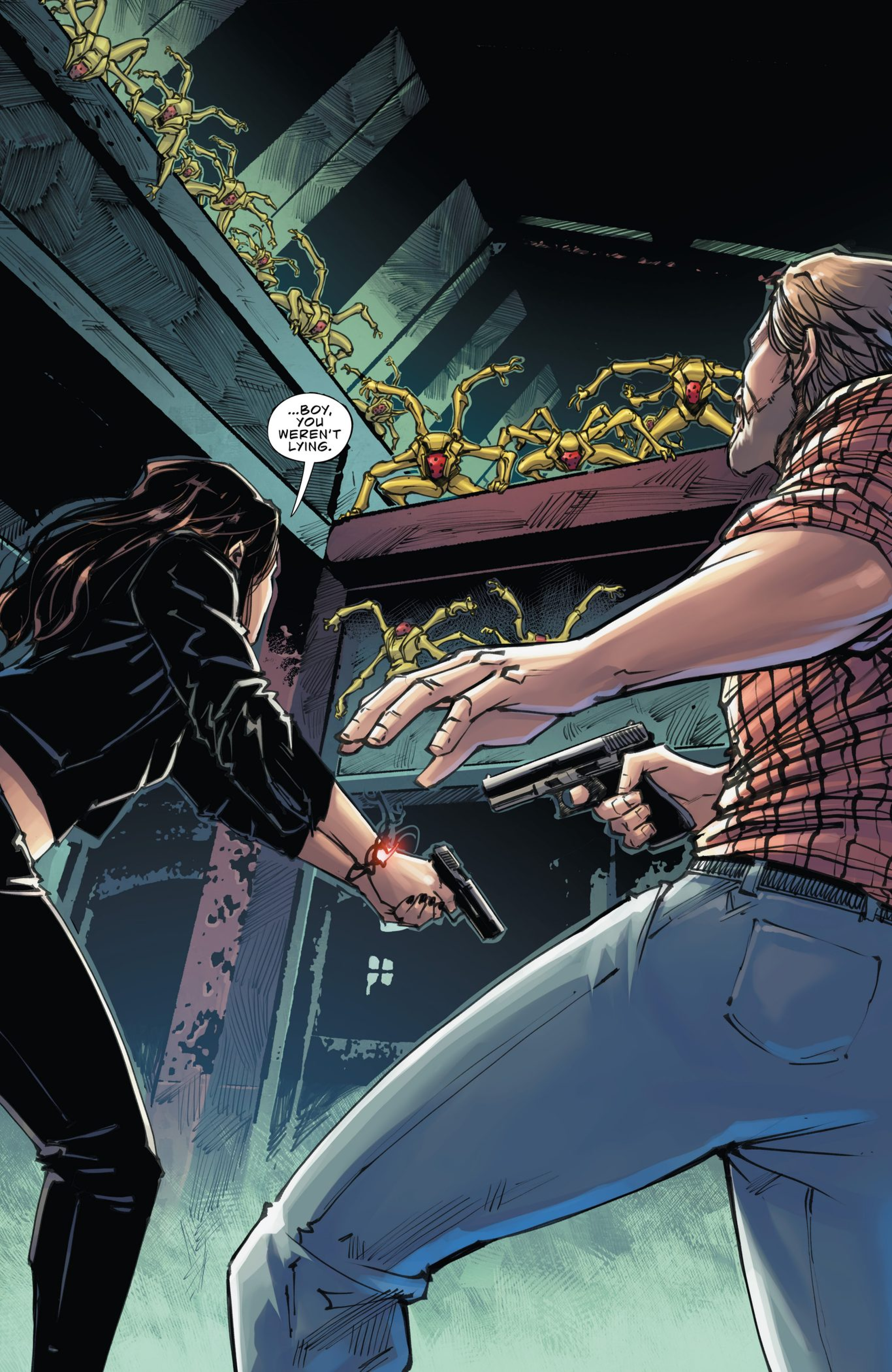

EVENING, MR. STERN. THIS LADY GIVING YOU ANY TROUBLE?
OH-HO, STEPHAN-SAN!
WHEN YOU GONNA LET ME BET ON MYSELF IN A REAL GAME, STERN?
OI, MASTER STERN! WHAT WOULD YOO LIKE FA SUPPAH?
...*BUDDY.*
THIS IS...
LISTEN--
WHAT REACTION ARE YOU *HOPING FOR* HERE?
THEY'RE ROBOTS.
YEAH, *I FIGURED.*
WHY? BECAUSE NO ONE HUMAN COULD EVER WANT TO BE MY FRIEND?!
WHAT?
...SON.
YOU'RE A SMART, POLITE, GOOD-LOOKING BOY WITH THE WORLD AT YOUR FEET.
SO WHY THE HELL--?

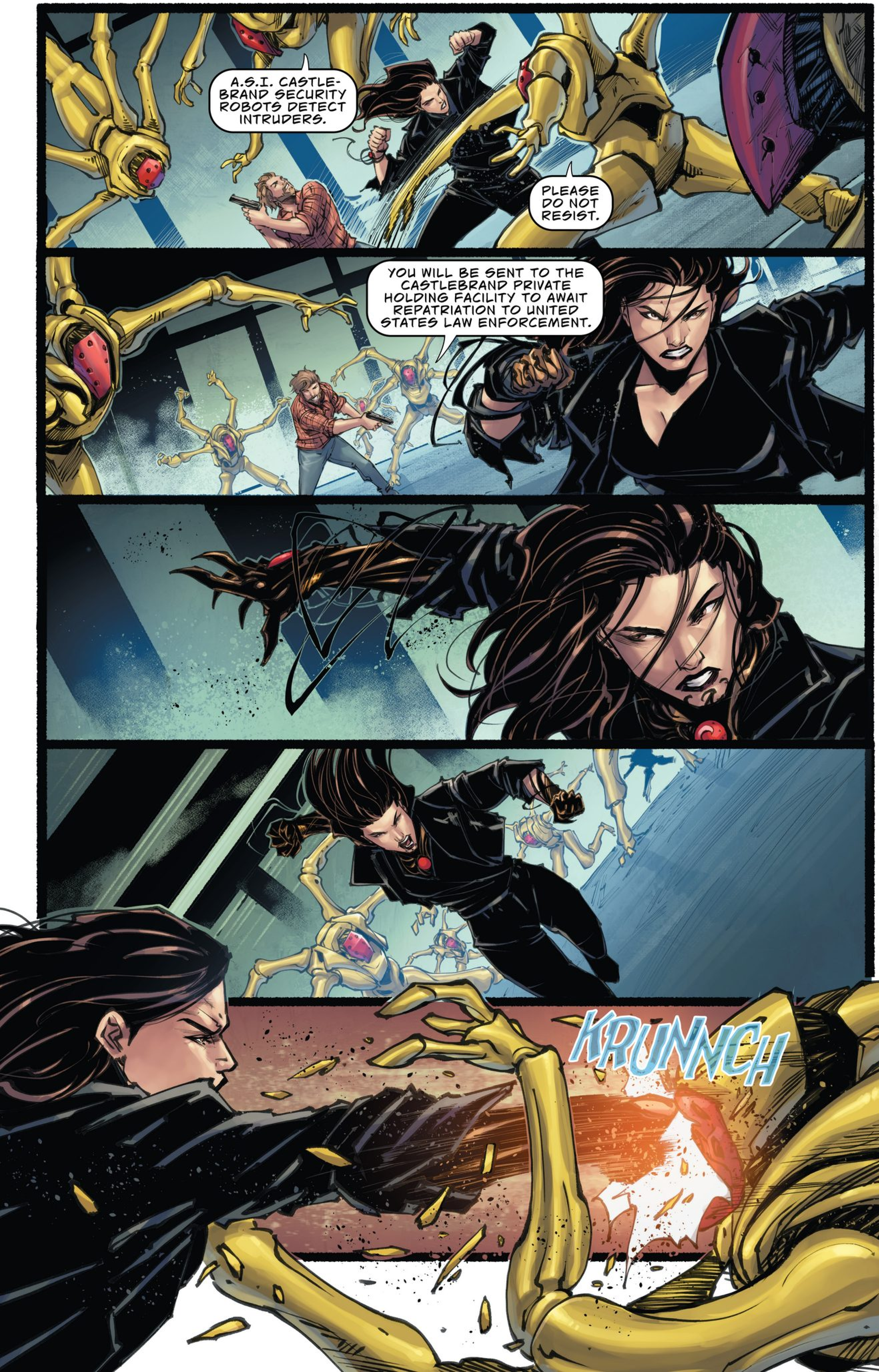

"LOOK, DETECTIVE...
"SOON, WE'RE GONNA OFFER TOP-OF-THE-LINE A.I. COMPANIONS--COOKS, CLEANERS, MAINTENANCE, SECURITY--ANYTHING YOU NEED!
"100% PROGRAMMABLE. THEY WILL NEVER TELL YOU NO.
"AND 'SPECIAL' MODELS, TO, UM..."
"BUT YOU'RE DESIGNING THESE SO PEOPLE DON'T HAVE TO FEEL EMPATHY FOR OTHER HUMAN BEINGS.
"A COMPANION WHO CAN NEVER TELL YOU 'NO' IS **A SLAVE.**"
"OKAAAAY, BUT THAT'S WHAT MAKES THESE PERFECT! SLAVERY IS EVIL BECAUSE IT CAUSES SUFFERING--NOW, WE CAN HAVE A SLAVE THAT FEELS NO PAIN!
"WOULD YOU CLAIM THAT YOU WERE ENSLAVING YOUR ☒$★@ING REFRIGERATOR?"
"THERE'S NO HUMAN IN MY LIFE THAT CAN OPEN UP THEIR RIB CAGE TO KEEP MY GREEK YOGURT COLD.
"I'M NOT TRYING TO REPLACE **NORMAL HUMAN INTERACTIONS** WITH **AN OBEDIENT MACHINE.**
"YOU YOURSELF SAID YOU WANTED A SLAVE IF THEY COULD FEEL NO PAIN--THE BOTTOM LINE BEING, **YOU WANT A ☒$★@ING SLAVE.**
"IF THAT WASN'T THE POINT, WHY WOULD YOU MAKE THEM IN A HUMAN LIKENESS? MAKE THEM SAY THESE TRITE, OBEDIENT THINGS? MAKE THEM ☒$★@ABLE?"
"SO YOU WOULD OBJECT LESS IF THEY ALL LOOKED LIKE REFRIGERATORS?"
"...I DON'T FRICKING KNOW, **PROBABLY!**
"ALL YOU'VE DONE IS PROVIDE POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT TRAINING FOR US TO TREAT HUMAN BEINGS AS OBJECTS.
"THEY SEE THE ROBOT'S PRETTY FACE, AND GIVE HER A COMMAND.
"THEY GET USED TO GIVING ANY PRETTY FACE A COMMAND, AND FEELING RESENTMENT--THEN RAGE--WHEN THEY ARE DISOBEYED.
"ONCE THEY ARE USED TO BEING TREATED LIKE KINGS, THEY LOATHE HAVING TO TREAT ANYONE AS EQUALS.
"ONCE THEY SEE THEMSELVES AS A MASTER, THEY ONLY SEE OTHERS AS **SLAVES.**"

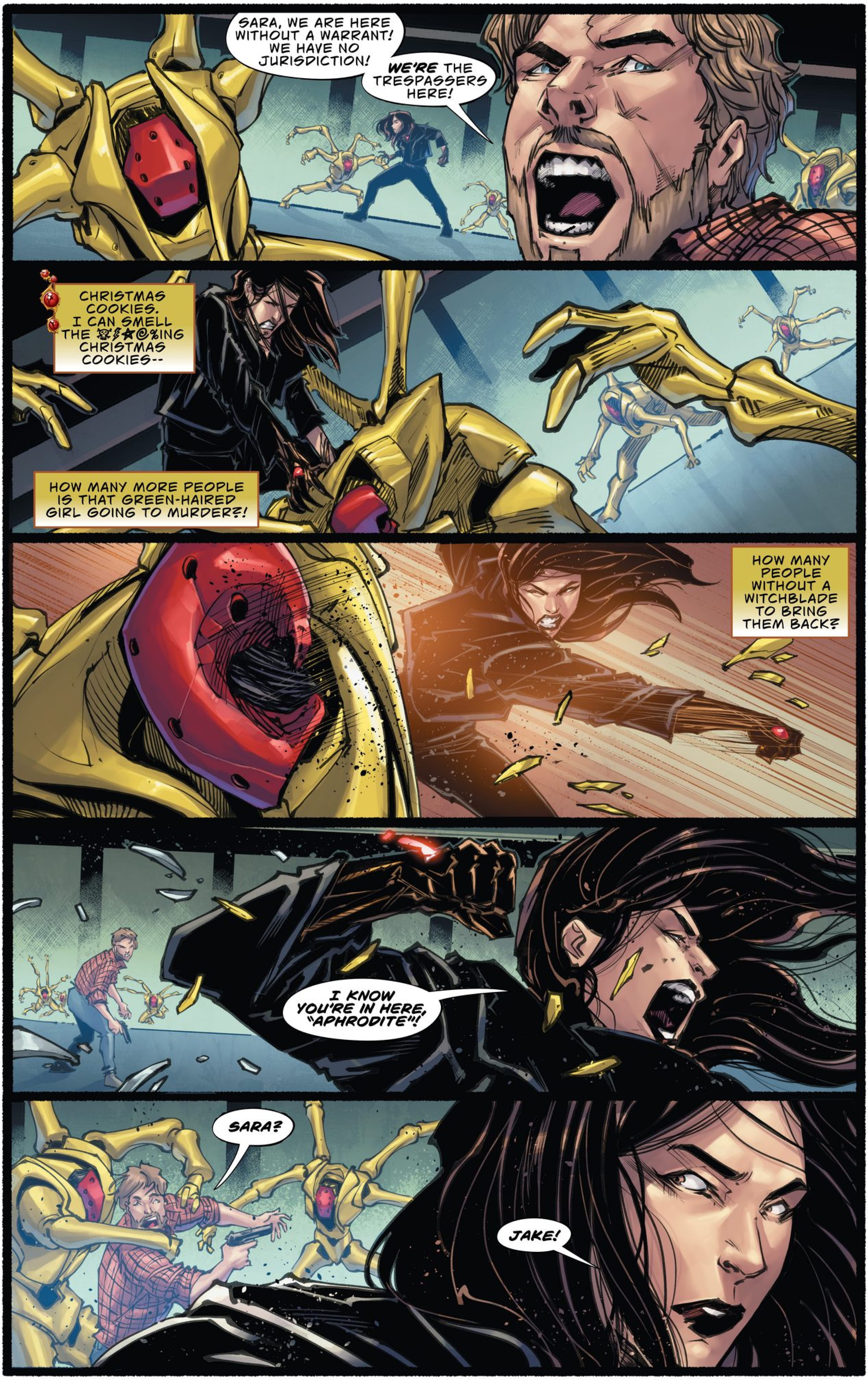

TO THE MAN WITH A HAMMER, EVERYTHING LOOKS LIKE A NAIL?
TAKE THIS ONE HOME. TRY IT OUT.
PERFECT FOR THE BURNED-OUT, SECRET-KEEPING LONER WHO CAN'T BE HONEST WITH ANYONE IN THEIR DAY-TO-DAY LIVES!
IT JUST FEELS GHOULISH. MASTURBATION WITH A MIRROR.
BUT OTHER THAN "IT MAKES ME FEEL ICKY," I'M STRUGGLING TO FIND A PHILOSOPHICAL ARGUMENT.
I'LL PASS, THANKS.
YOU ♪ DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE ♪ MI-SSIIING...
HEY, WHERE'D SHE...?
OH, STEPHAN-SAN, COME BACK!

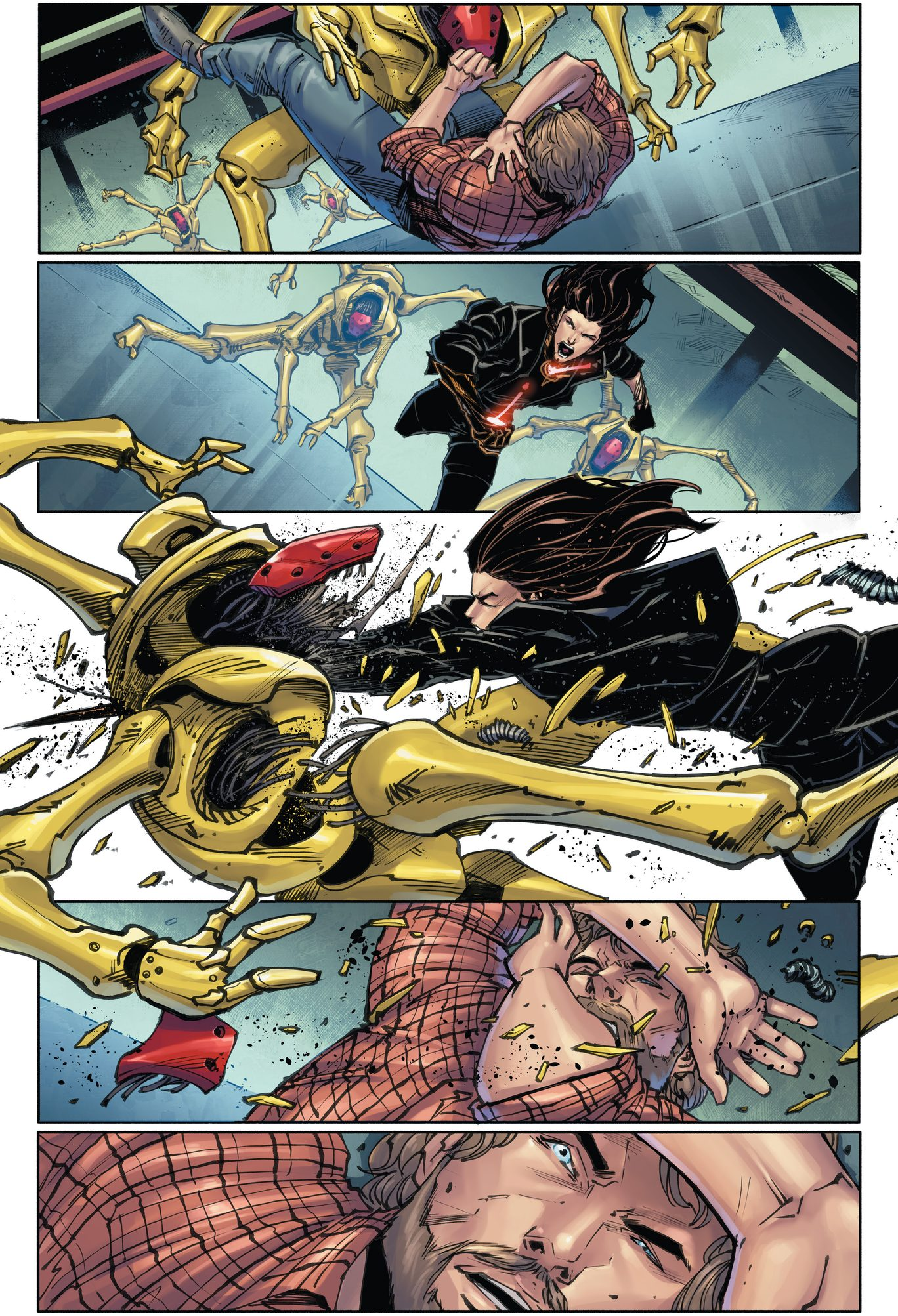

STERN SAYS THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF THESE WILL REDUCE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, AGAINST WORKERS, AGAINST PEOPLE JUST TRYING TO FEED THEIR FAMILIES.
BUT I DON'T THINK THAT'S TRUE.
WE ARE ANIMALS, NOT ROBOTS. WE ARE ***TRAINED,*** NOT PROGRAMMED.
AGAIN, WHEN AN ANIMAL GETS USED TO BEING REWARDED FOR A CERTAIN BEHAVIOR, IT WILL EXHIBIT THAT BEHAVIOR, REGARDLESS OF CIRCUMSTANCE.
WE TRAIN PEOPLE TO SEE OBJECTS AS THE EQUIVALENT OF PEOPLE, THEN THEY'RE GOING TO SEE PEOPLE AS THE EQUIVALENT OF OBJECTS.
I THINK, ANYWAY.
IAN WAS BETTER AT THE PHILOSOPHY.
AND HOW THE ☠⚡★@ CAN I SIT IN JUDGMENT? MY POWER WAS THE HIJACKING OF MY BODY.
THE WITCHBLADE STOLE MY BODY FROM MYSELF, USED ME, DEVOID OF MY OWN WILLPOWER.
AM I SUPPOSED TO SAY IT'S FINE? THAT THE ENDS JUSTIFIED THE MEANS?
KCHANK
WH-OOP!

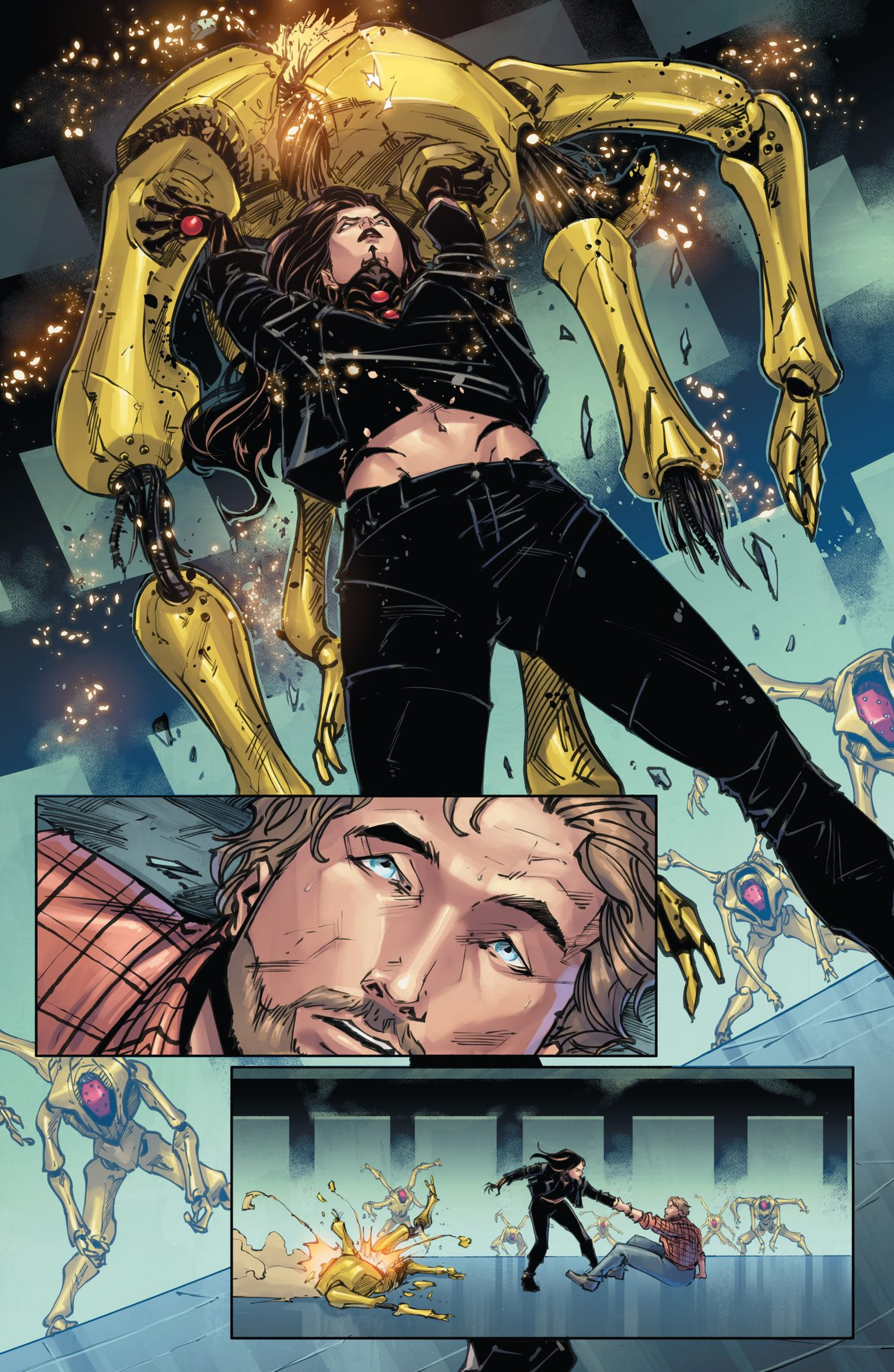

--JAKE?!
SARA?!
WHAT THE ☠⚡★@?!
HEY, PEZZINI...
THIS IS GONNA SOUND CRAZY.
AND I DON'T KNOW WHY...
...BUT I WANT TO TRUST YOU.
SOOOOO...
ANY CHANCE YOU BELIEVE IN SECRET KILLER ROBOTS?
YES, JAKE.
YES. I DO.
I KNEW YOU WERE NEVER ONE TO SIT PRETTY ON THE SIDELINES, BUT I THINK YOU MIGHT'VE BITTEN OFF MORE THAN YOU CAN CHEW, McCARTHY.
YOU WENT ALL HOLLYWOOD NEO-NOIR INVESTIGATING A TECH MEGACORP, AND A SHADOWY CABAL OF INDUSTRIALISTS LED BY "THE CHAIRWOMAN" KICKED YOU OUT OF CALIFORNIA?
I KNOW THE PREVIOUS CEO, DR. ATTICUS OZKIN, WAS KILLED BY A.S.I. TECH.
ALL HIS SECURITY DEVICES MALFUNCTIONED SIMULTANEOUSLY.
AND I'M WILLING TO BET IT WAS BY ONE OF THESE "SMART SECURITY PROTOTYPES" BEHIND THE "GLITCH."

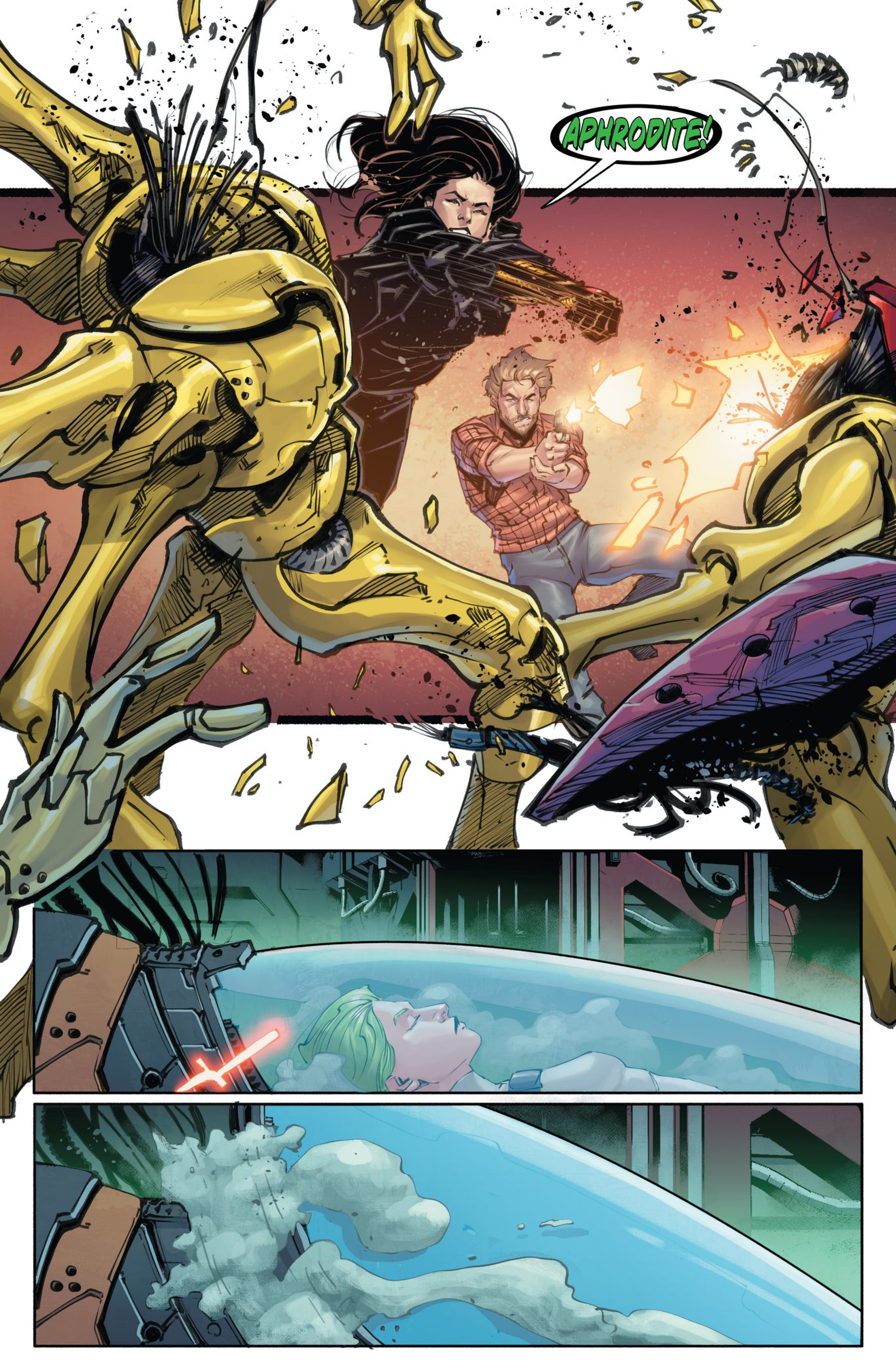

...BOY, YOU WEREN'T LYING.

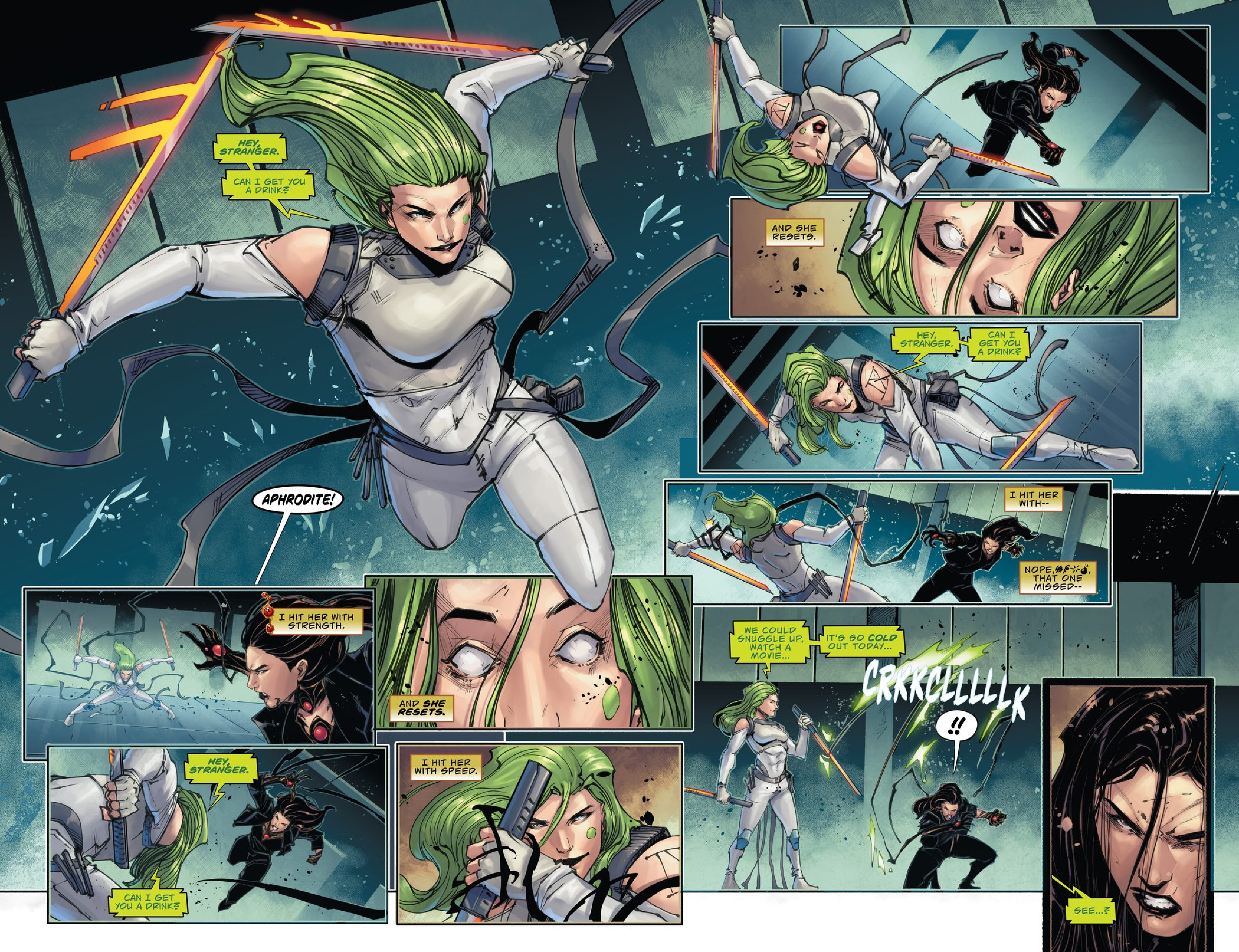

A.S.I. CASTLEBRAND SECURITY ROBOTS DETECT INTRUDERS.
PLEASE DO NOT RESIST.
YOU WILL BE SENT TO THE CASTLEBRAND PRIVATE HOLDING FACILITY TO AWAIT REPATRIATION TO UNITED STATES LAW ENFORCEMENT.
KRUNNCH

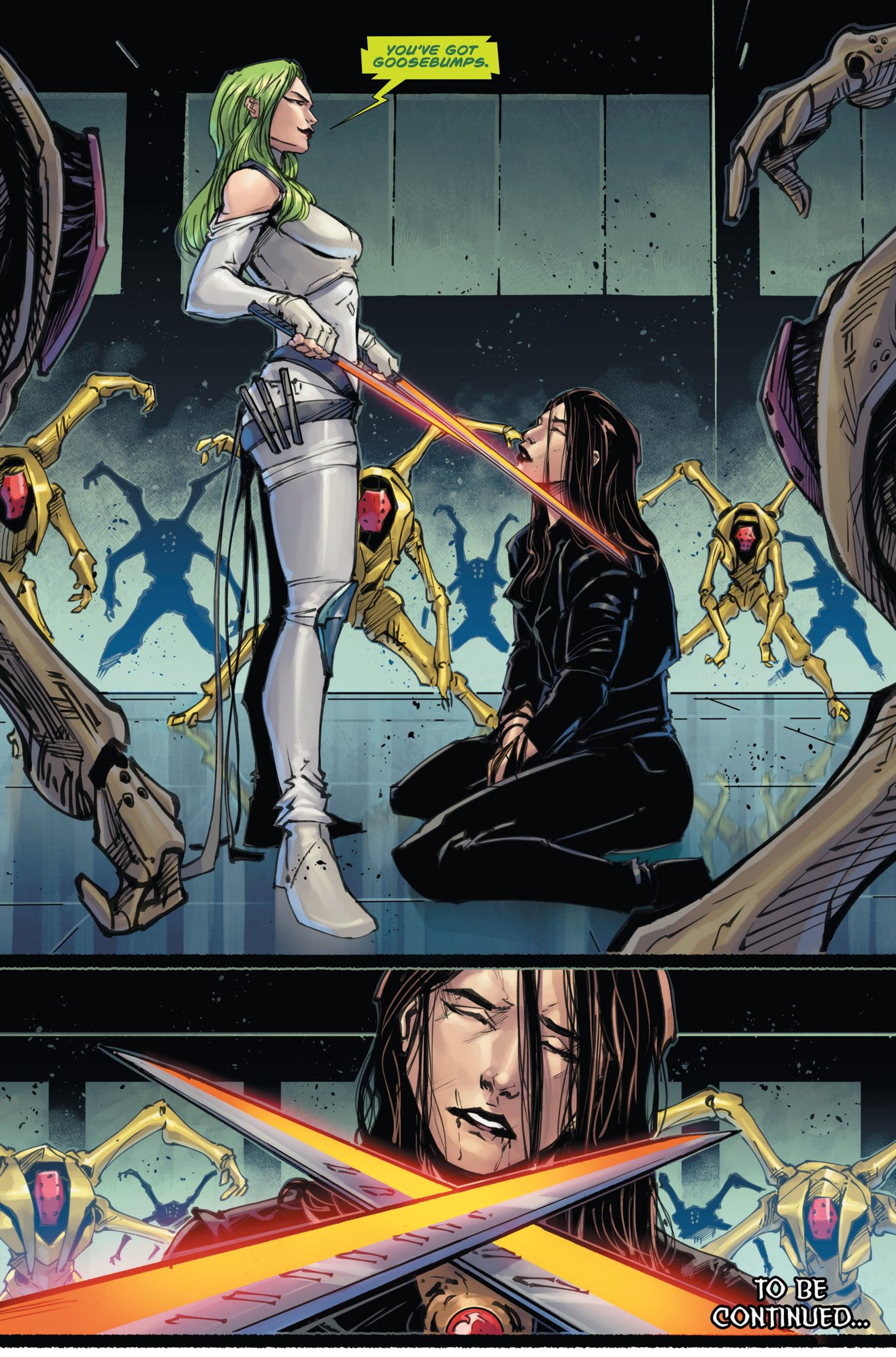

SARA, WE ARE HERE WITHOUT A WARRANT! WE HAVE NO JURISDICTION!
WE'RE THE TRESPASSERS HERE!
CHRISTMAS COOKIES. I CAN SMELL THE ☠⚡★@%ING CHRISTMAS COOKIES--
HOW MANY MORE PEOPLE IS THAT GREEN-HAIRED GIRL GOING TO MURDER?!
HOW MANY PEOPLE WITHOUT A WITCHBLADE TO BRING THEM BACK?
I KNOW YOU'RE IN HERE, "APHRODITE"!
SARA?
JAKE!






APHRODITE!

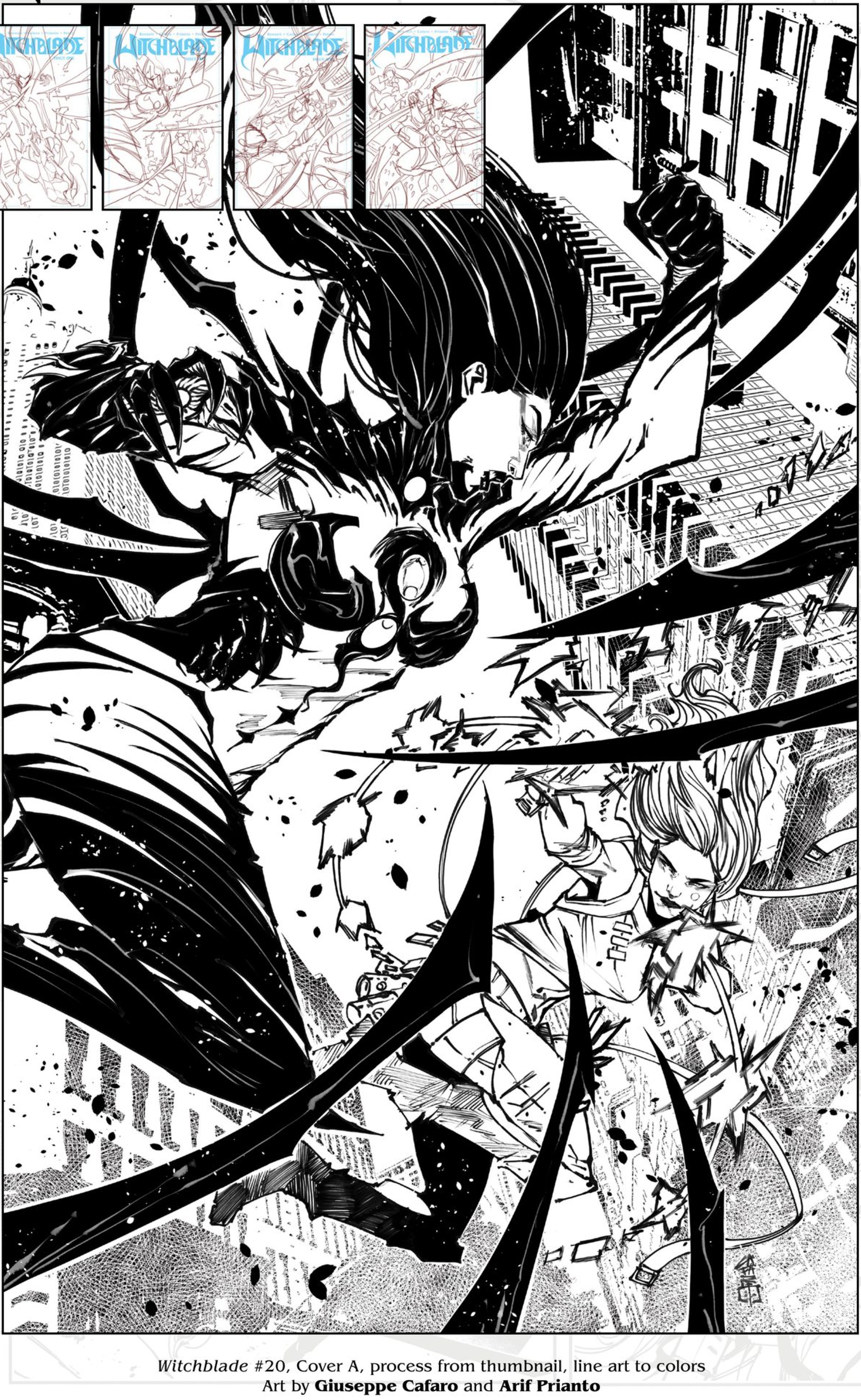

HEY, STRANGER.
CAN I GET YOU A DRINK?
APHRODITE!
I HIT HER WITH STRENGTH.
AND SHE RESETS.
HEY, STRANGER.
CAN I GET YOU A DRINK?
I HIT HER WITH SPEED.
AND SHE RESETS.
HEY, STRANGER.
CAN I GET YOU A DRINK?
I HIT HER WITH--
NOPE, #$*💣, THAT ONE MISSED--
WE COULD SNUGGLE UP, WATCH A MOVIE...
IT'S SO COLD OUT TODAY...
CRKKCLLLLLK
!!
SEE...?


YOU'VE GOT GOOSEBUMPS.
TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE!

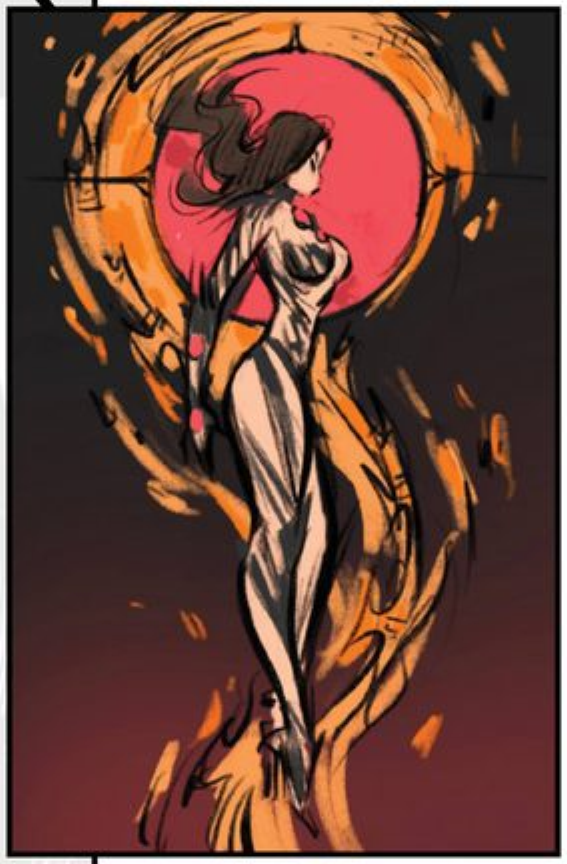
"OBLIVION"

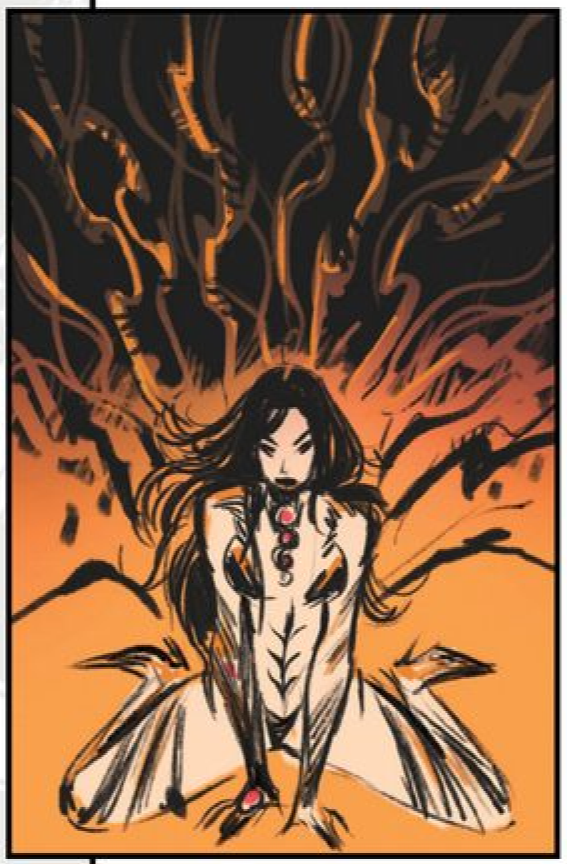
WITCHBLADE #20 Gallery • Cover A Process

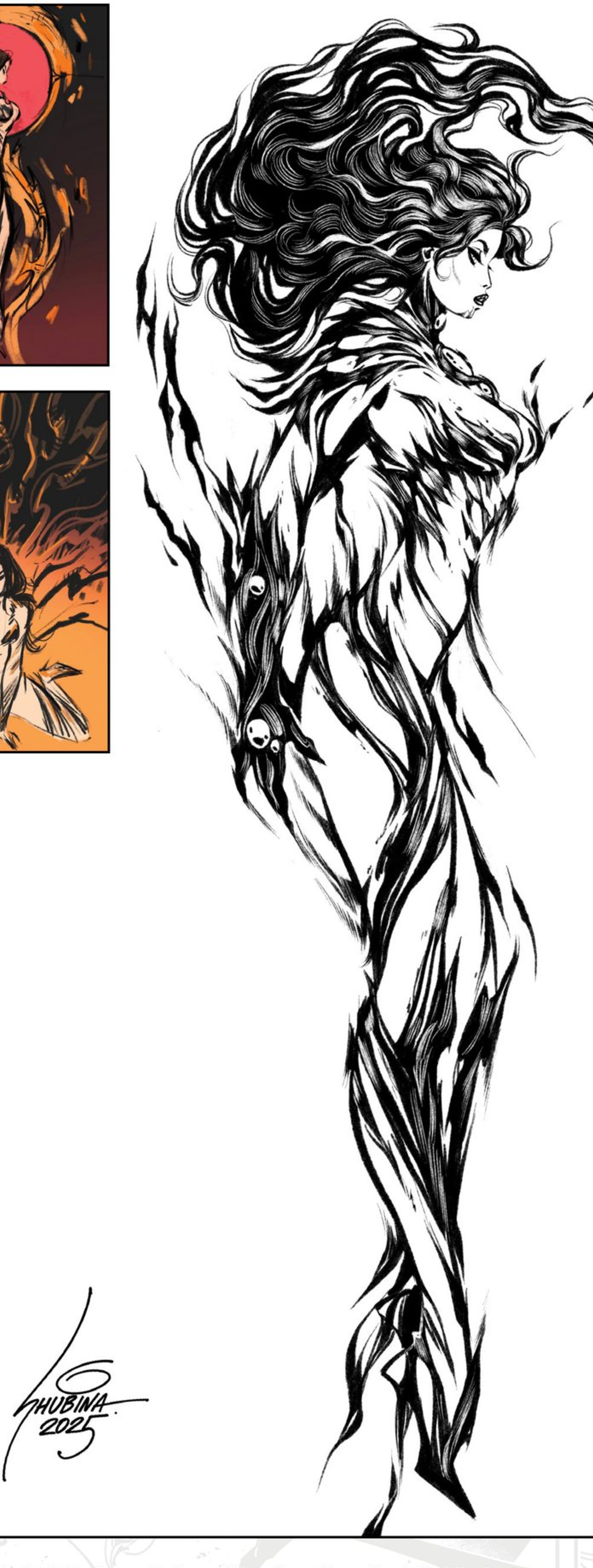


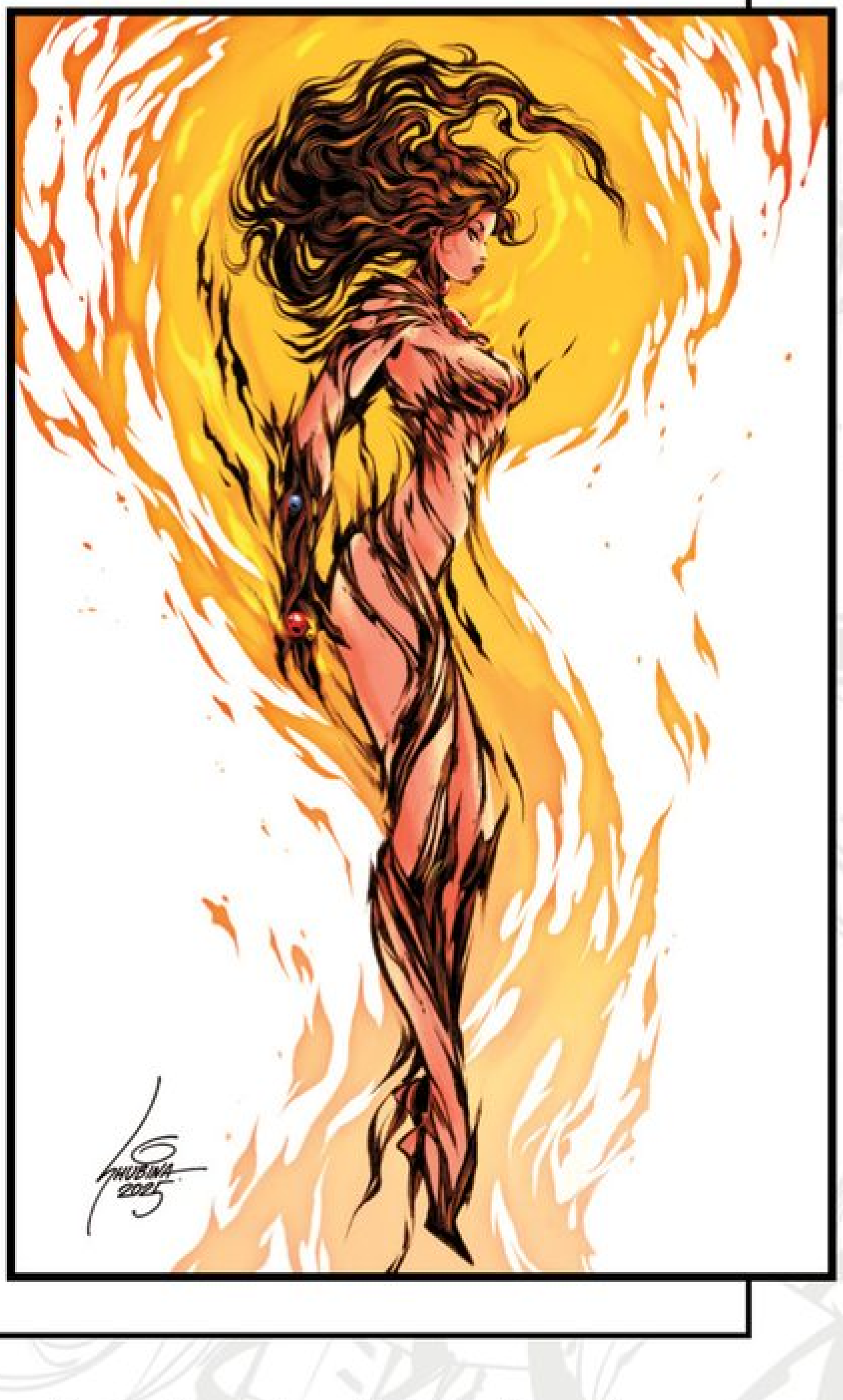
Witchblade #20, Cover A, process from thumbnail, line art to colors
Art by **Giuseppe Cafaro** and **Arif Prianto**

Witchblade #20 Gallery • Cover B Process

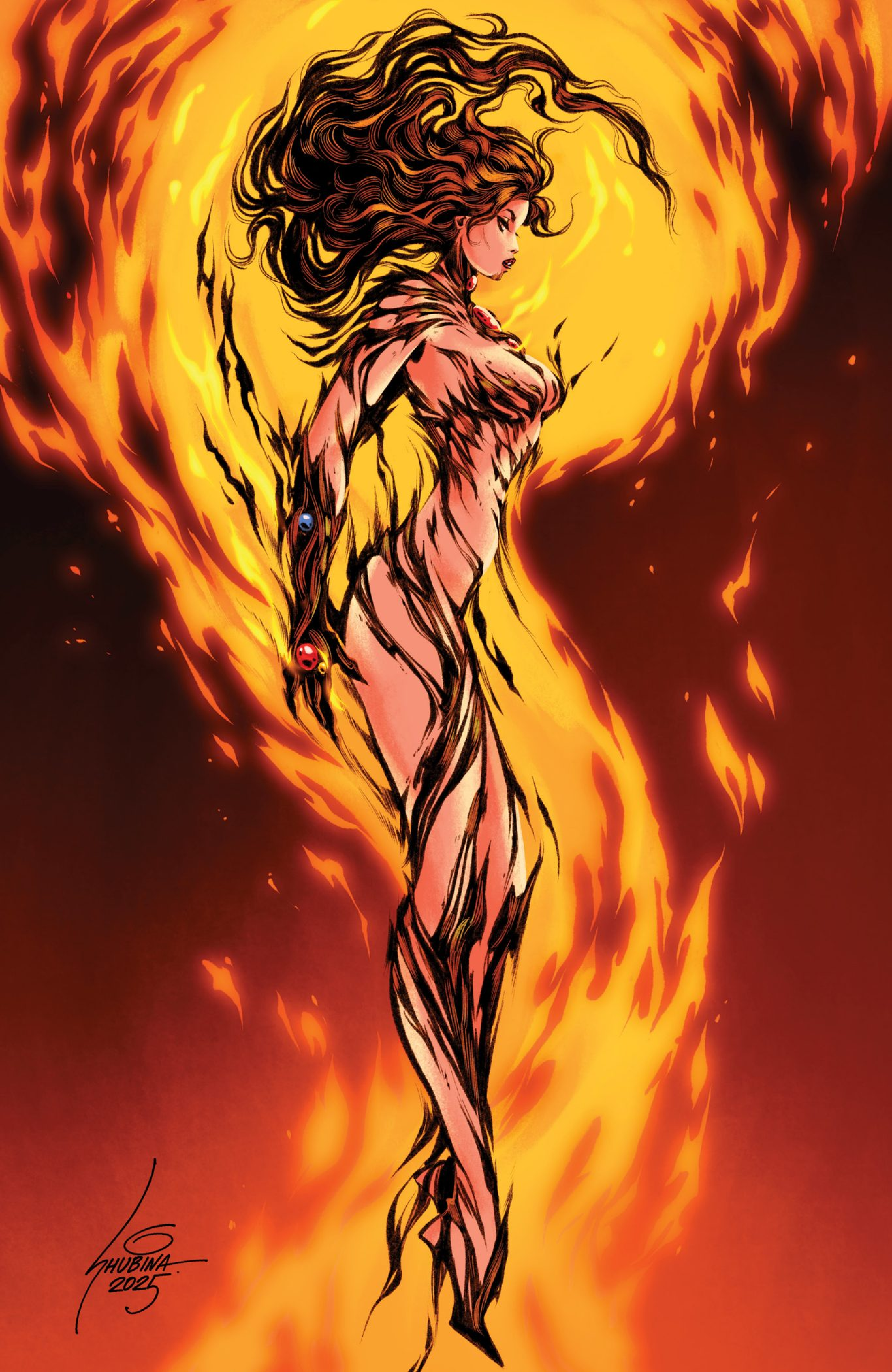





Shubina 2025


Shubina 2025

Witchblade #20, Cover B, C, and Top Cow Store Spot Foil Exclusive process from thumbnail, inks to colors
Art by **Sveta Shubina** (Cover C colors above at lower right • Cover B colors on facing page)



SHUBINA.
2025

WITCHBLADE #20 Gallery • Cover D Process

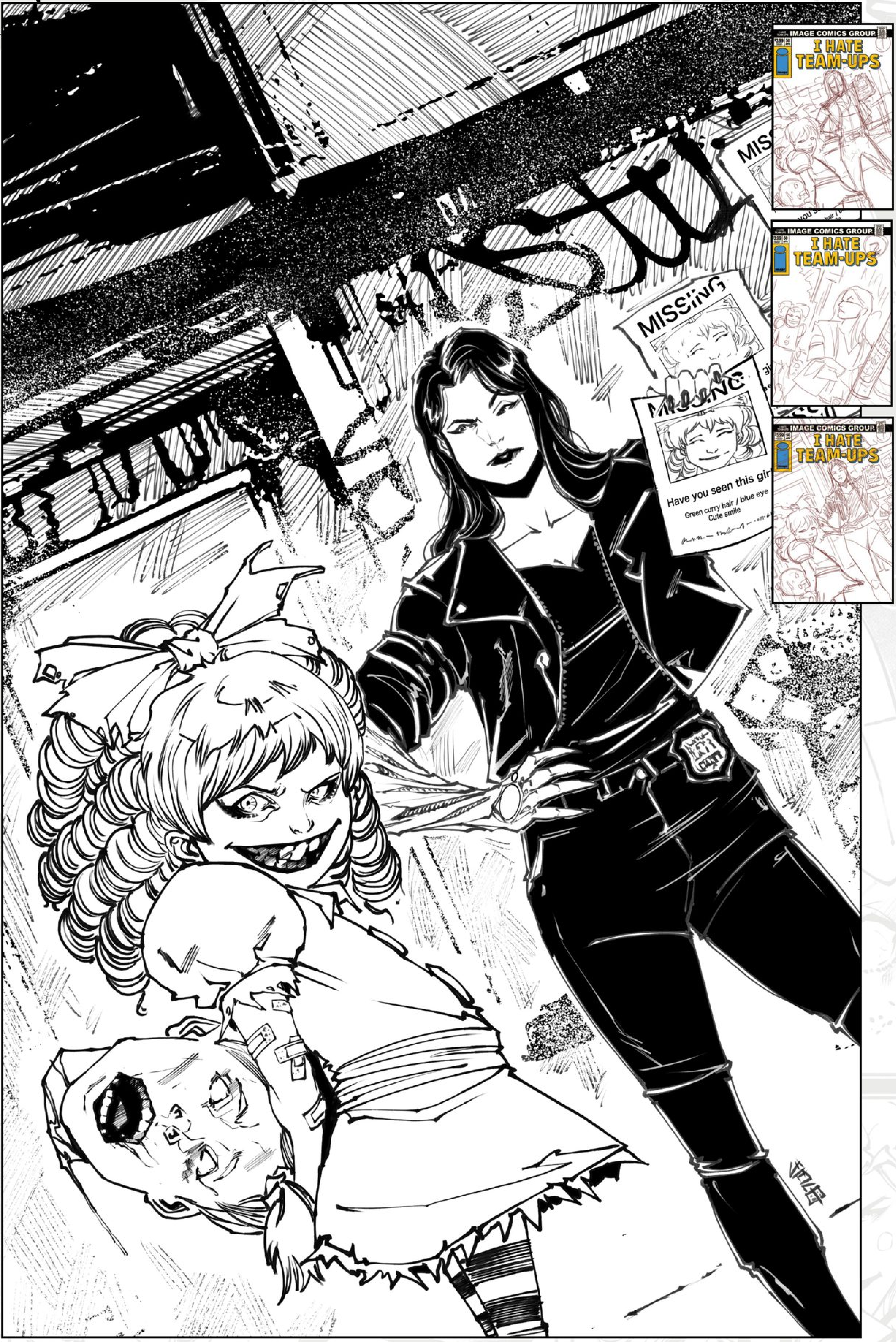


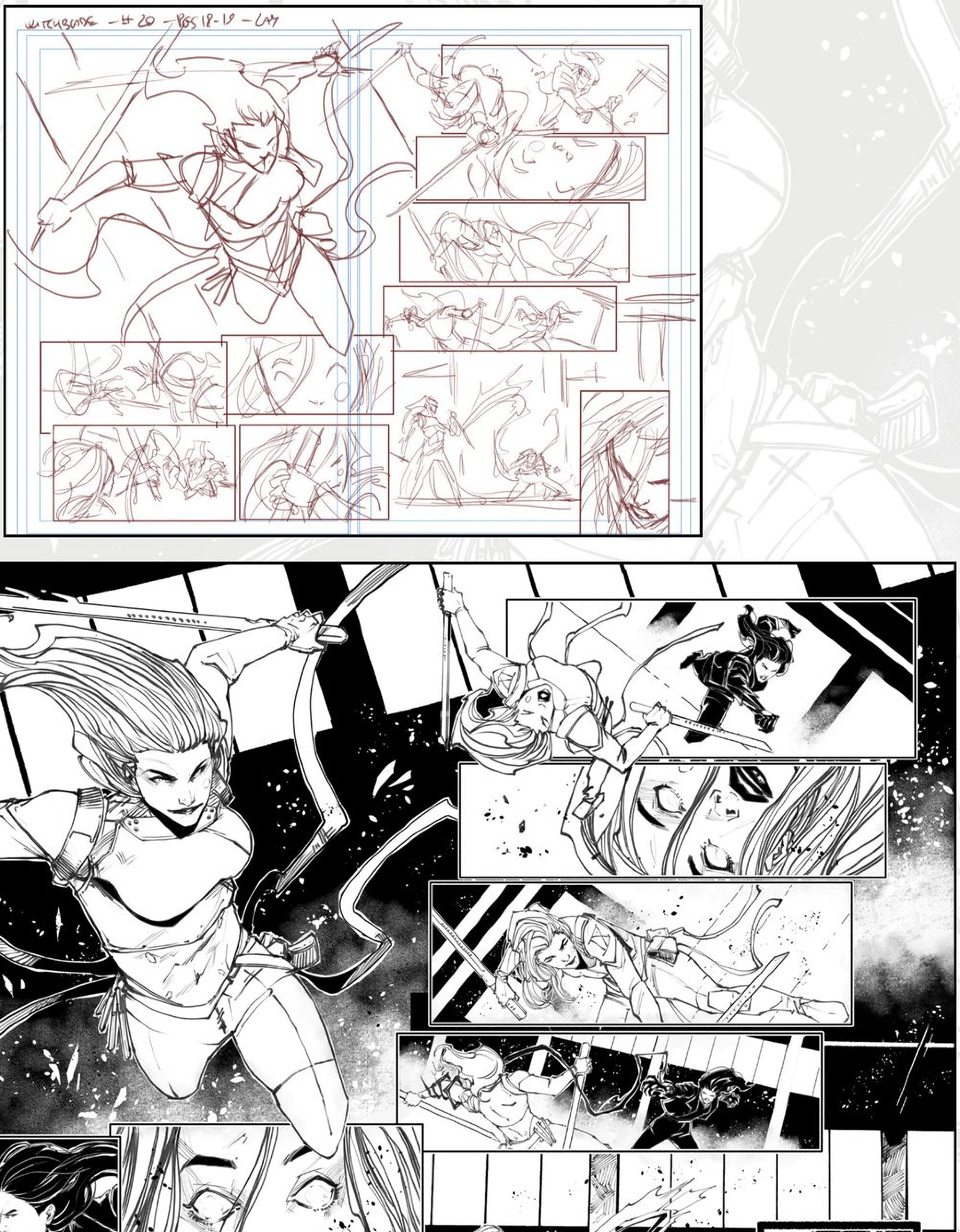
IMAGE COMICS GROUP
I HATE TEAM-UPS
MISSING
MISSING
Have you seen this girl
Green curry hair / blue eye
Cute smile

Witchblade #20, Cover D, *I Hate Fairyland* Team-Up Variant process from thumbnail, line art to colors
Art by **Giuseppe Cafaro** and **Gibran Ferdian**

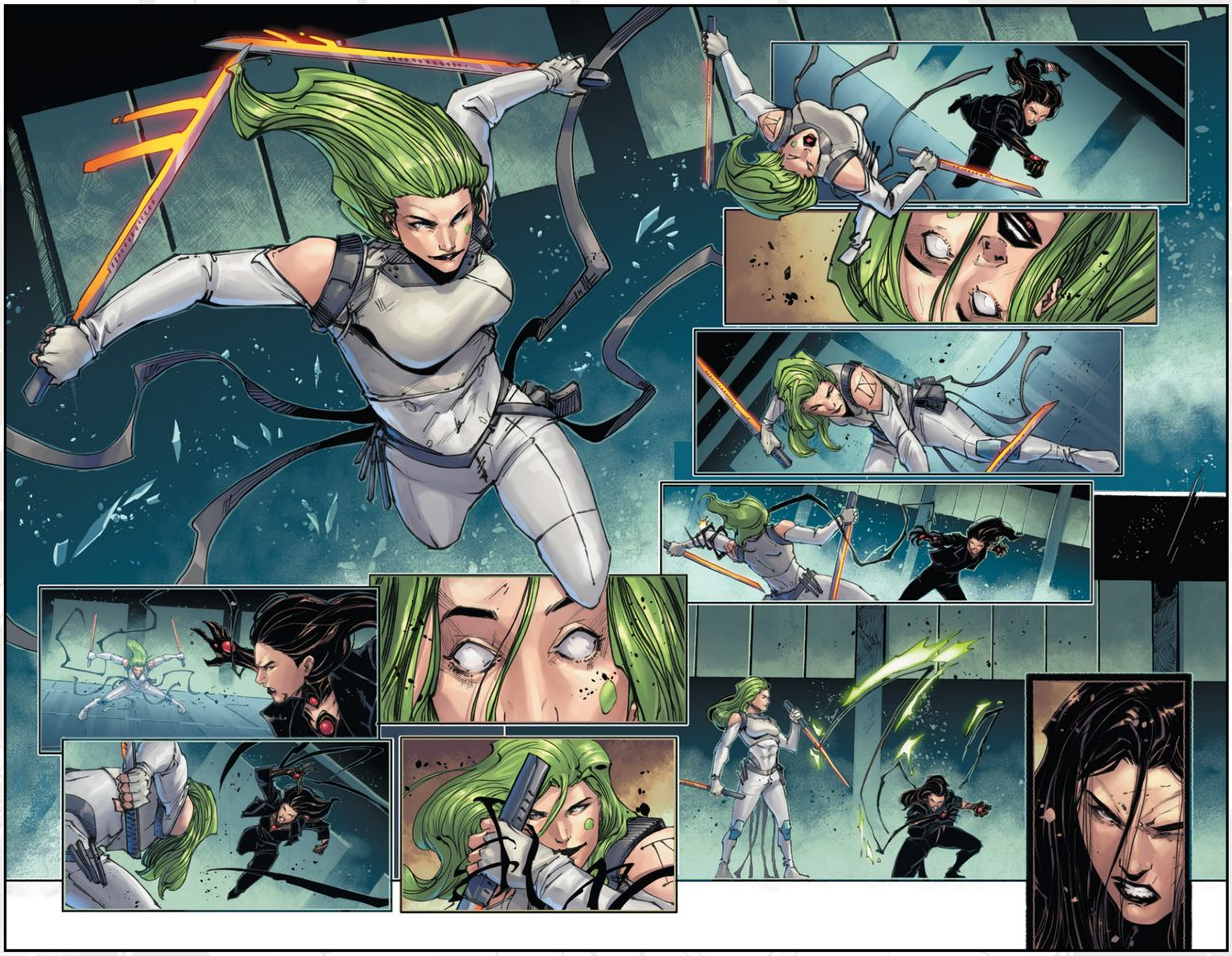
MISSING
Have you seen this girl?
Green curry hair / blue eye
Cute smile
MISSING
MISSING
Have you seen this girl?
Green curry hair / blue eye
Cute smile
MISSING
Have y
MISSING
Hav you seen
urry hai
Cute smi

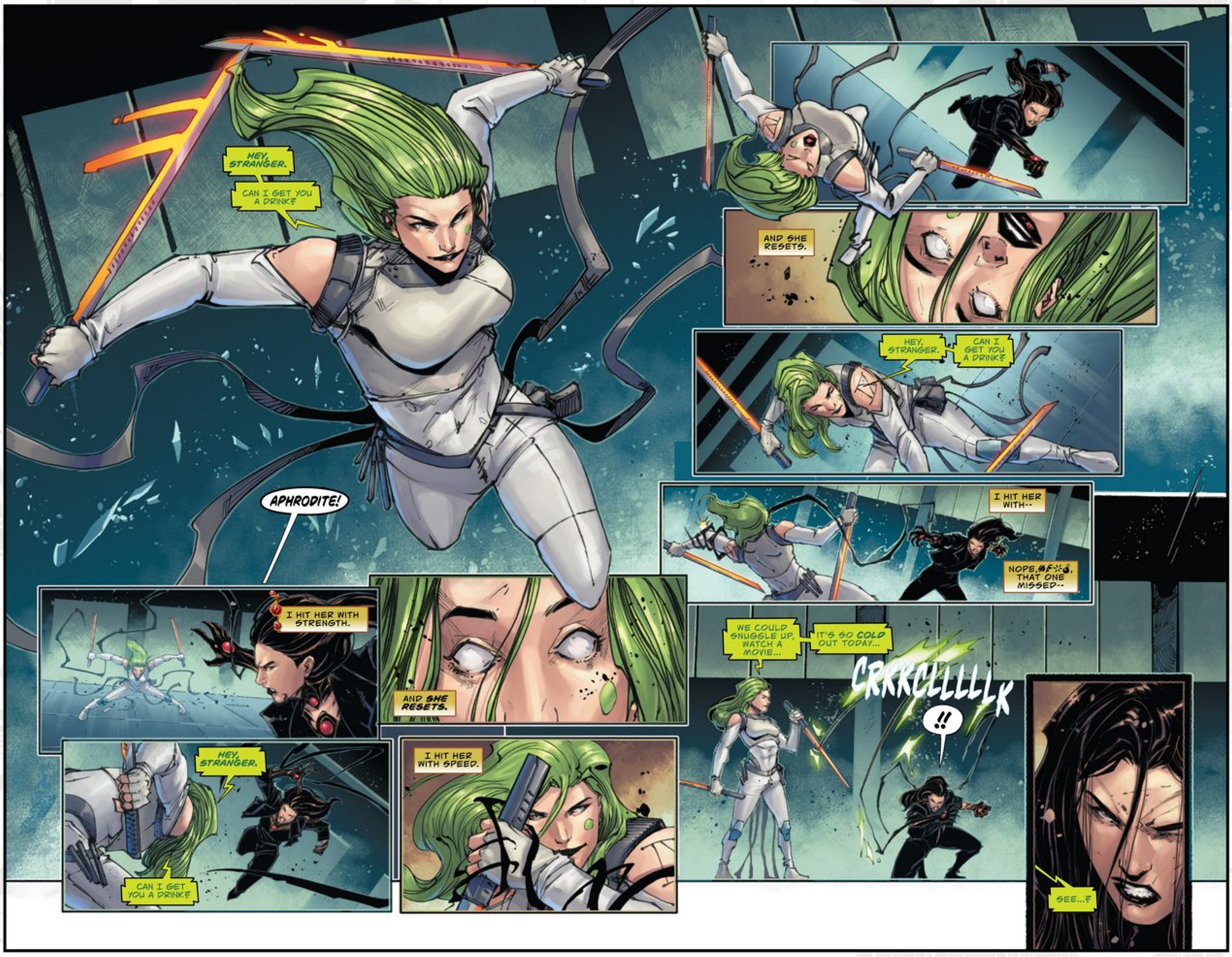
WITCHBLADE®

#20 Gallery • Page Process

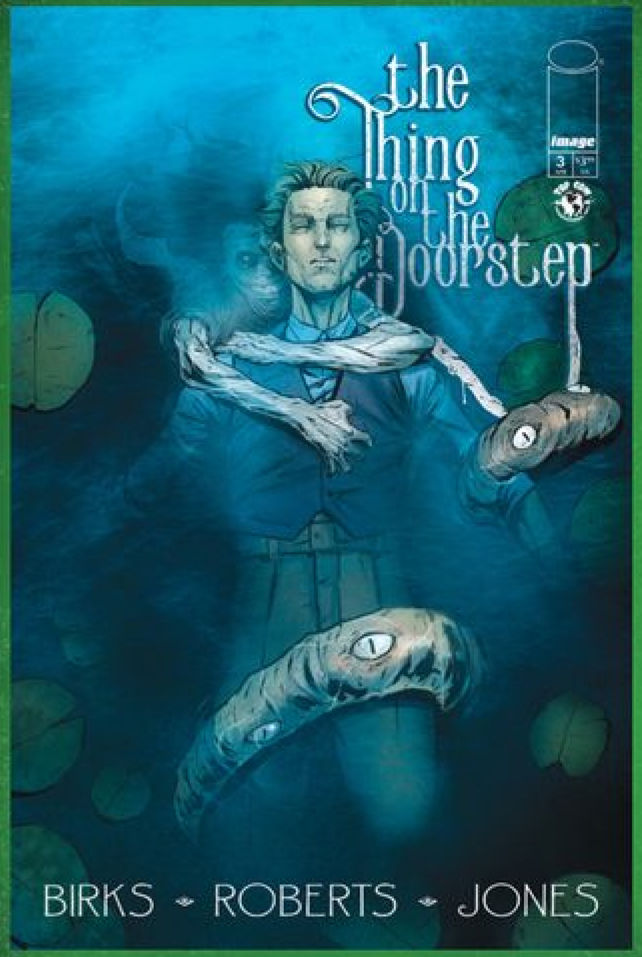

WITCHBLADE - #20 - PGS 18-19 - LAM

Witchblade #20, pages 18-19, process from thumbnails, line art, colors to letters




HEY, STRANGER.
CAN I GET YOU A DRINK?
APHRODITE!
I HIT HER WITH STRENGTH.
AND SHE RESETS.
HEY, STRANGER.
CAN I GET YOU A DRINK?
I HIT HER WITH SPEED.
AND SHE RESETS.
HEY, STRANGER.
CAN I GET YOU A DRINK?
I HIT HER WITH--
NOPE, #F*●, THAT ONE MISSED--
WE COULD SNUGGLE UP, WATCH A MOVIE...
IT'S SO COLD OUT TODAY...
CRKKCLLLLLK
!!
SEE...?

FROM TOP COW IN APRIL!


the Thing on the Doorstep
BIRKS · ROBERTS · JONES

The Thing on the Doorstep #3 (of 5)
WRITER: Simon Birks
ARTIST: Willi Roberts
LETTERER: Rob Jones
32 pages · $3.99 · Apr. 15

Bennett · Cafaro · Prianto & Co. · Peteri
WITCHBLADE

Witchblade #20
WRITER: Marguerite Bennett
ARTIST: Giuseppe Cafaro
COLORIST: Arif Prianto
LETTERER: Troy Peteri
32 pages · $3.99 · Apr. 15

THE DARKNESS
ANGELUS

The Darkness vs. Angelus [one-shot]
Three stories into the past, present, and mind of the Angelus give us a glimpse as she sizes up her foes...and finds them wanting.
48 pages · $5.99 · Apr. 15

Sunstone
Volume 2
Stjepan Sejic

Sunstone volume 2
WRITER/ARTIST:
Stjepan Sejic
New Edition, 6" by 9" format
128 pages · $14.99 · Apr. 8

Linda Sejic
Punderworld
VOLUME TWO

Punderworld volume 2
WRITER/ARTIST:
Linda Sejic
208 pages · $16.99 · Apr. 8

Fine Print volume 3
WRITER/ARTIST:
Stjepan Sejic
240 pages · $19.99 · Apr. 15

FROM TOP COW IN MAY!

the Thing on the Doorstep
BIRKS
ROBERTS
JONES

The Thing on the Doorstep #4 (of 5)
WRITER: Simon Birks
ARTIST: Willi Roberts
LETTERER: Rob Jones
32 pages · $3.99 · May. 13

Bennett · Cafaro · Prianto · Peteri
WITCHBLADE

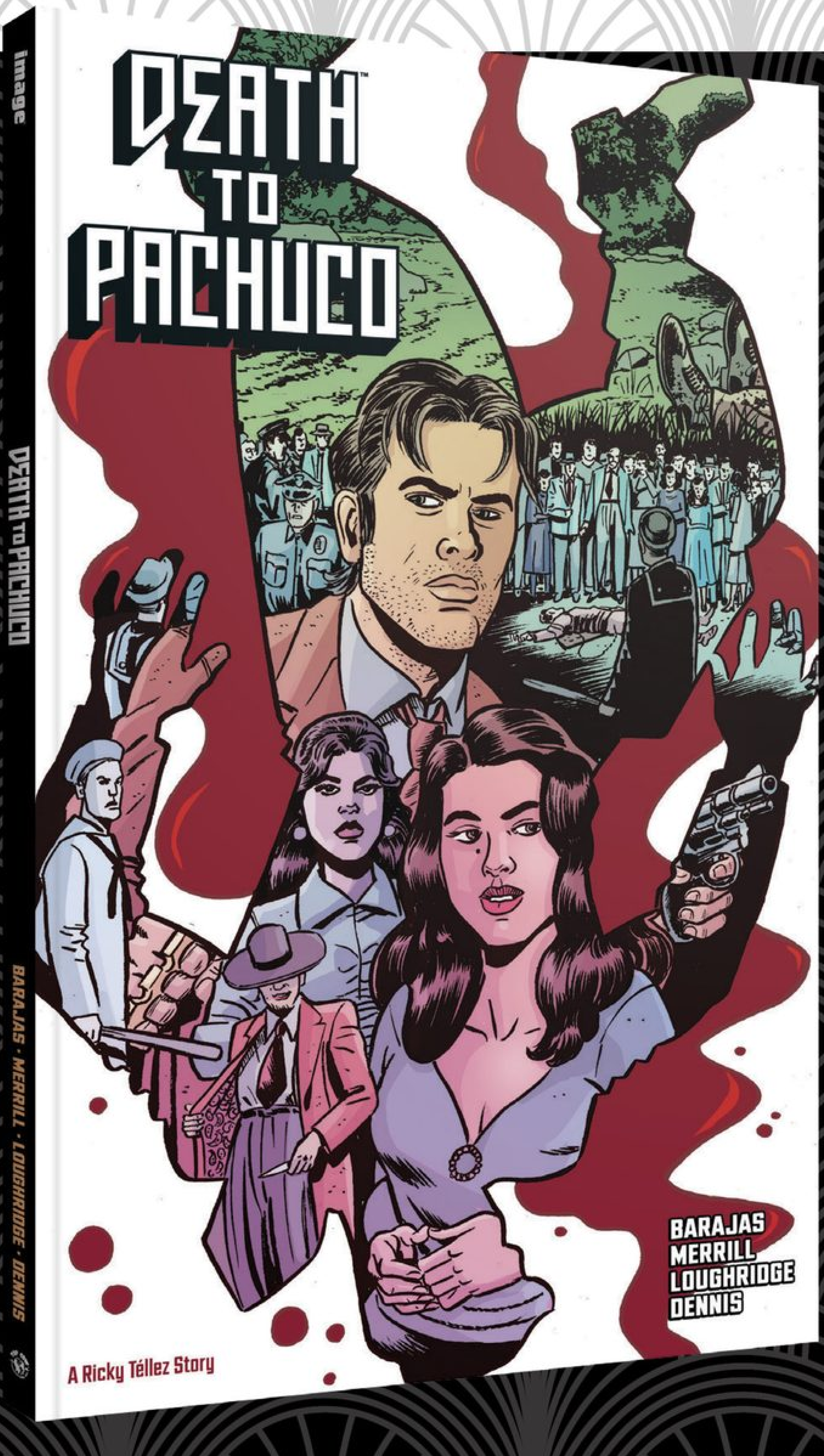
Witchblade #21
WRITER: Marguerite Bennett
ARTIST: Giuseppe Cafaro
COLORIST: Arif Prianto
LETTERER: Troy Peteri
32 pages · $3.99 · May. 13

THE DARKNESS

The Darkness [2025] #5
WRITER: Marc Silvestri
ARTIST: Agustin Padilla
COLORIST: Arif Prianto
LETTERER: Troy Peteri
32 pages · $3.99 · May. 20

For more visit Topcow.com · Follow @TopCow

THE SYNDICATED TEAM OF HENRY BARAJAS (LA VOZ DE M.A.Y.O. TATA RAMBO) AND RACHEL MERRILL (IZZY N JEAN) UNCOVER A CHINO NOIR ROOTED IN THE SHAMEFUL PARTS OF LA'S HISTORY!



"Between the absurdly talented creative team and the exciting relevant subject matter, this is my most anticipated comic of the year!"
– Aaron Long *(Bojack Horseman, Sublo and Tangy Mustard)*

"It might not be a good time to be a Mexican, but it is a good time to be a comics reader. Henry and his collaborators have whipped up a period piece about our life and times that's more relevant than ever."
– Gerry Duggan *(Falling In Love On The Path to Hell, This Ends Tonight)*

"I can't get enough of this story. A razor-sharp historical noir that doesn't pull any punches. Barajas and Merrill are at the top of their game. Up there with Stray Bullets and CRIMINAL in terms of essential crime comics."
– Alex Segura *(Alter Ego, Secret Idenity, Daredevil: Enemy of my Enemy)*

"... Barajas and his collaborators craft an engrossing noir story that might inspire you to learn more about an under-discussed chapter of American history. "
– Zack Quaintance (Comics Beat)

During the summer of 1943, Los Angeles became a hotbed of tension and conflict as a series of fierce clashes erupted between U.S. Navy members and Mexican American youth stemming from the murder of Carlos Urbano. Private eye Ricardo "Ricky" Tellez needs to find the Sleepy Lagoon Killer before the racist mob kills him in the Zoot Suit Riots.

The clock is ticking—and it's a bad time to be a Mexican.

This edition also includes a reproduction of the "The Sleepy Lagoon Case" pamphlet, published by The Sleepy Lagoon Defense Committee in 1943, with a foreword by the legendary Orson Welles.

Available Now / 168 PAGES / FC / MATURE / US $16.99 / Collects issues #1-5
Lunar Order Code: 0126IM0464 · ISBN: 978-1-5343-3522-6

For more visit Topcow.com · Follow @TopCow

TOP COW STORE

Find us online at
TheTopCowStore.com

The Top Cow Store is back and growing! Every month, new stock will be added, including exclusives, merchandise, collectibles, and more!

AVAILABLE NOW...
$25 Spot Foil, Virgin variants!

The Darkness vs. Angelus
cover art by **Giuseppe Cafaro**
Available 4/15

Witchblade #20
cover art by **Sveta Shubina**
Available 4/15

NEW COLLECTED EDITIONS

Sunstone
Volume 2
Linda Šejic
Punderworld
Fine Print

Sunstone VOL. 2 [New Edition]
6” by 9” format · $14.99

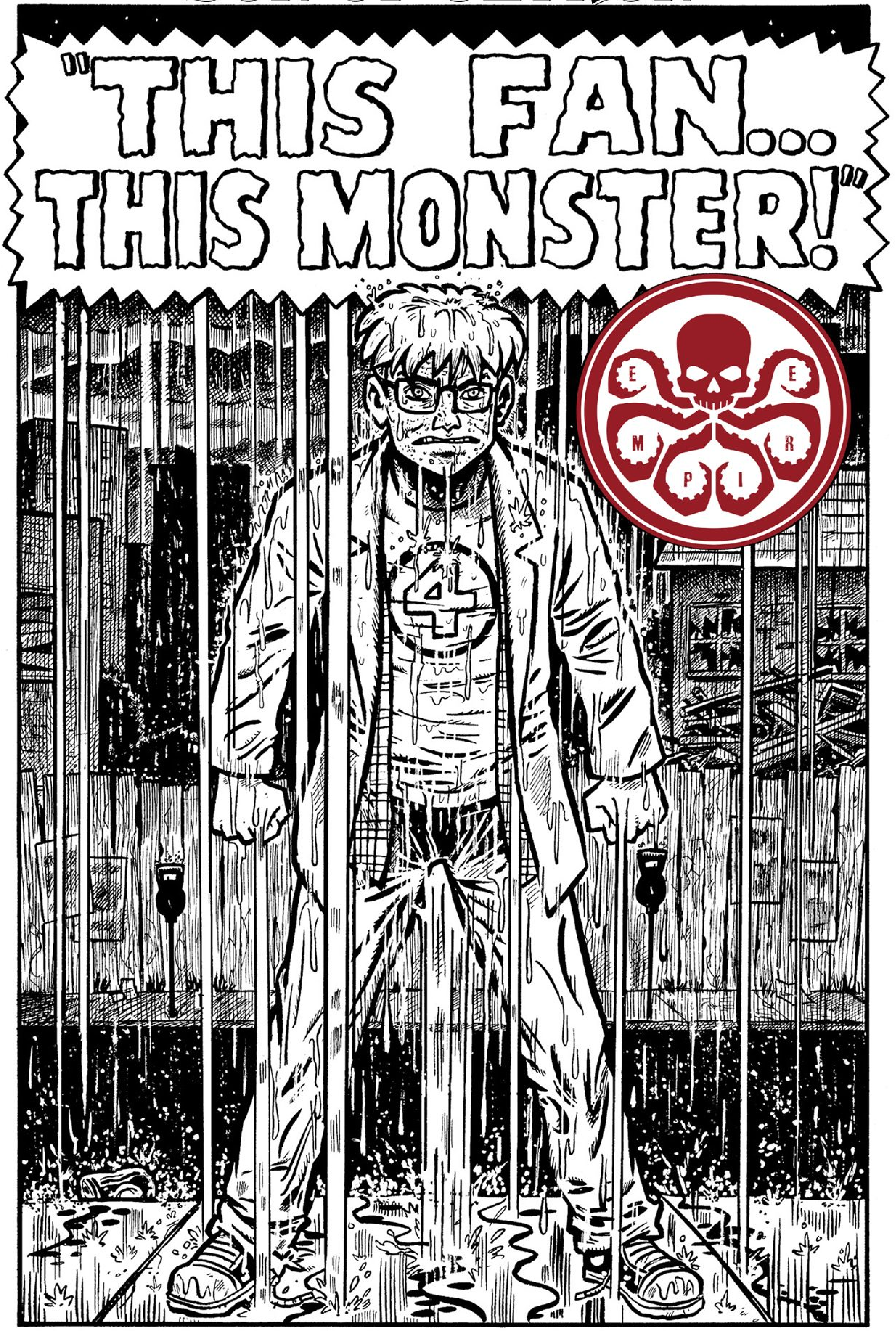
Punderworld VOL. 2
208 pages · $14.99

Fine Print VOL. 3
240 pages · $19.99

For updates on Top Cow news, merch, conventions, and free downloads visit us at
TopCow.com

COVER A ART BY **GIUSEPPE CAFARO** AND **ARIF PRIANTO**
TOPCOW.COM | IMAGECOMICS.COM | RATED T + / TEEN PLUS

SON OF ULTRON


"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"